This weekend's weather:
Saturday: Scattered Showers
Sunday: Rain

On Campus Friday:
Men's Hoops vs.
Union, 8pm

The Spectator

Hamilton College
Clinton, New York
February 25, 2000

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"And I'll tell it and think it and speak it and breathe it,
And reflect it from the mountain
so all souls can see it...."
-Bob Dylan

Commons: Unsatisfactory in recent health inspection

By W.J. Gormley'01
Creative Editor

Commons Dining Hall was declared unsatisfactory in meeting the state health codes by State Health Inspectors during an unannounced inspection on January 20. McEwen and the Howard Diner were found satisfactory but they also had violations of the Health Code. The Little Pub had no violations and was declared satisfactory.

Commons was in violation of state regulations that prescribe the temperature at which potentially hazardous foods can be stored and the rate at which they can be cooled. For example, health inspectors found three 8-pound pork roasts that sat at temperatures in excess of 52 degrees for over 24 hours. Sweet potatoes, sliced turkey breasts and pasta were all found at unacceptable temperatures.

In McEwen, a container of chicken stock that had been made the day before was found to be at 67 degrees in the cooler. In response, potentially dangerous food was either cooled properly or discarded.

According to Susan Batson, Oneida County Principal Sanitarian in charge of the Food Program, "All food is potentially hazardous. Food can not be kept in the 'danger zone' or it poses a potential health problem." Regardless of the type of food the danger zone is between 140 and 45 degrees F. Food must be cooled to less than 45 degrees with in 6 hours if it is placed in a cooler for storage.

Violations of the "danger zone" are hazardous because they create conditions where a variety of different bacteria can grow. "Whether or not a kitchen passes the unannounced inspections depends on the number and severity of the violations," said Baston.

"The College is always concerned when there are any indications of problems in any of the dining halls," commented Betsy Espe, Director of Auxiliary and Contract Services, who is responsible for the contract administration between the College and Bon Appetit, the company that provides food service to the campus. A result like the one on January 20th "is not atypical for a health inspection," stated Espe. "The violations in question are not health hazards."

In addition, the violations were "addressed immediately. Bon Appetit has always reacted immediately to violations to the best of their ability." According to Espe, there was no threat of bad food being served to students and the conditions in the Bon Appetit kitchen have "never been something that has threatened health and safety."

Annmarie Rossomano, General Manager of Bon Appetit echoed Espe's comments, stressing that health and safety were a "number one concern." "There are temperature control logs down in the kitchen and all of the cooks carry calibrated and sterilized food thermometers."

Other than the violations noted, the state health inspectors were "very impressed with our level of service, maintenance and sanitation for the level of production, 1700 meals, required of our different facilities. They made mention of this at all of the kitchens they visited," according to Rossomano.

Health inspections are unannounced walkthroughs by public health inspectors, either from the state or county level, and they check for compliance with New York State public health codes. The inspections take place several times over the course of a year and all aspects of the dining halls are looked at, from food preparation and serving areas, to consumption.

On February 7th, a follow-up health inspection by Oneida County officials found no violations and all facilities were deemed satisfactory.

PHOTO BY DARRREN BLOCK '01

The Howard Diner was one of the campus dining facilities found to be in violation of New York State health codes during an unannounced health inspection on January 20. The Little Pub was the only dining area without anny violations.

Three distinguished writers: Mikhail Iossel, Ha Jin , Josip Navakovich partake in a panel discussion in Dwight Lounge this past Tuesday.

Ready or not Annex opens

James P. Du Vernay '03
News Writer

An overwhelming crowd flooded The Beinecke Annex, Hamilton College's newest and biggest social space, last weekend for its debut opening. Although not completely finished as of Friday, February 18th, college officials allowed the special sneak preview in conjunction with the culmination of the weeklong Febfest activities.

The Square Pegs, a popular 80's cover band, served as the inaugural group to perform in this new venue last Friday. Event organizers from the Campus Activities Board (CAB) characterized the event as going well. They estimated attendance levels between 150-200 people throughout the evening.

On Saturday, Feb. 19th, the *Samples* performed with an opener by Percy Hill. This second event proved a more challenging test for the new social space. Problems with the light fixtures necessitated a half-hour delay in opening the doors. By the time the doors were opened at 7:30 PM, hundreds of students had gathered in anticipation of the concert. Crowd control remained a problem all night for the one, overworked, security guard, as students repeatedly opened side entrances to smoke and allow access to students refused admission once the building reached its legal capacity. CAB representatives estimated the total number of students during the show as over 600. CAB Publicity Coordinator Zoe Kostoss remarked that "CAB's never had people sneaking into its events before."

Special Events Coordinator and FebFest organizaer Kurt Mangold'02 admitted that this debut weekend offered a few difficulties but he remained confident that these would be worked out in the future.

"There were a couple of kinks, but those should be fixed. We'll work on it and improve. The space is serving its purpose. We didn't really know what to expect. The campus had never had something like this before."

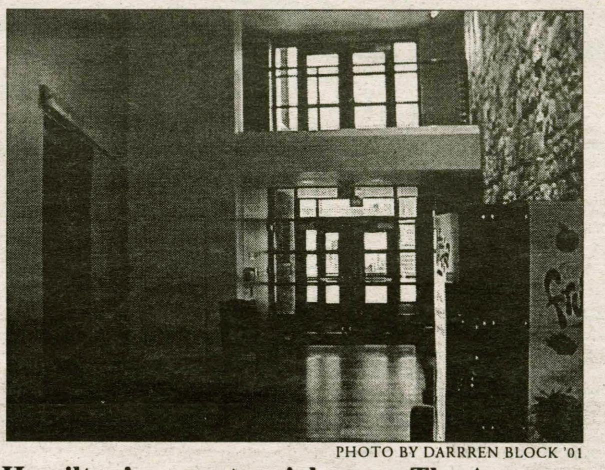

PHOTO BY DARRREN BLOCK '01

Hamilton's newest social space, The Annex, debuted this past weekend with a near-capacity crowd forthe Samples concert.

The *Daily Bull* conducted a survey this week asking for student reactions to the Annex. Noting many negative reactions to the building, Editor Reba Rosenthal '00, wisely observed

"The problem is that people thought it would be finished and didn't realize there is more to be done."

Initial student reactions included a mix of praise and criticism of the Annex. On the

see Annex, page 2

INSIDE

Music Reviews

Our team of music writers reviews two new albums from *Songs Ohia* and *Junior Varsity* check out their opinions. **Page 13**

Squahing the Competition

Women's squash traveled to Yale this past weekend and came away with the prestigious Howe Cup. **Page 19**

Mars Exploration

NASA suffers losses with the disappearance of two probes that set out to explore possibilities of life on Mars. **Page 9**

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FebFest a campus-wide hit

By Lisa Widowski '01
News Editor

The students of Hamilton revived a decades-old tradition last week, as the festivities for FebFest 2000 got underway. Beginning with the CAB-sponsored Gong Talent show on Monday evening, a week long celebration of winter commenced with unprecedented fanfare.

Hamilton's first winter carnival, held in 1938, included such events as a hockey game, dance parties, and figure skating exhibitions. The carnival tradition continued into the 1950's, eventually losing popularity.

But that all changed last week, as Hamilton looked to start its own version of the winter carnival in the new millennium. The festivities kicked off on Monday in the barn, with a Talent Show with a twist. The gong show was hosted by Hamilton's resident celebrity, Jack Spangler'00, and included celebrity judge President Tobin, who gave overall winner Courtney Robbins '03 a "21" for her acoustic performance. Robbins was awarded $100 cash for her winning act.

Tuesday dawned bright and chilly, with a wine and chocolate tasting event in the Pub, led by Professor of Classics Carl Rubino, in the afternoon. Wednesday's festivities included the class of 2003-sponsored BINGO tournament, and the Carmen Caramanica Trio in the Pub.

The AD brothers sponsored a Snoccer tournament that began on Thursday, despite some fairly icy conditions. The No-Holds-Barred-Shredding-Sled-Race brought many inventive sleds to the hill, as students skidded down on everything from Commons trays to errant pieces of cardboard. Chris Hand'01 won the sledding contest and brought home a $50 gift certificate from Northern Outfitters after a photo finish.

The Snow Sculpture contest on Friday saw several creative and impressive entries. First place winners Nat Warner'00, Liz Rodriguez'03, Barb Dalgish'03 and Ashley Engel'03, with a little help from TAZ Ultimate, put together a very impressive Empire State Building, including cars, landscaping, a gorilla and a damsel in distress. As the winners, they are given the honor of a plaque with their names on it, to be hung in the Pub.

Coming in second place in the sculpting contest were members of HAVOC, who managed to mold a foot out of Hamilton's own white stuff. Rob Link'02 came in third with his rendition of modern art sculptures. Other entries included sculptural delights from Tumbling After, ATX, CAB, and Allen O'Neil.

The highly anticipated annex was inaugurated on Friday evening, when local sensation and 80's cover band Square Pegs rocked the house with favorites from MC Hammer, Bobby Brown, Madonna and more. Those in attendance danced the night away, with several students dressed in classic 80's attire.

On Saturday, Bev's 7th annual Chili Cookoff, with categories for meat and nonmeat entries, commenced at the Pub. Winners Helmut Haffner'00 and Charlie Lower'00 took home the honors for concocting the best chili.

Later that evening, the new annex was descended upon by hundreds of Samples-crazed fans. The annex was filled to its capacity of 500, with members of the Hamilton and surrounding communities eager to hear the Colorado-based Samples. Following an opening set by Percy Hill, the Samples brought their grassroots style to the annex stage.

Students want their Cable TV

By Maurice Michaane '03
News Writer

Last week the faculty voted to revamp the curriculum, abolishing the old distribution requirements and citing "goals of the college" as the guiding force for this new era in education at Hamilton College. One of the major deciding factors in allowing the student body to select their own academic course of study was the idea that a liberal arts student should have the freedom to charter the course of their education, and that students are adult enough to know how to manage their education [in consultation with a faculty advisor]. The main theme here is freedom of choice.

There are many areas at Hamilton College in which the students have the freedom of choice, such as what sports or clubs they will join and what they will major in. But for all the choice the students of Hamilton College have, they don't have the choice to have cable television in their rooms. Over the past couple of years, putting cable in dorm rooms has been a hot issue among the entire Hamilton community.

According to a recent survey by the Daily Bull, 88% of the students on campus would like to have cable television in their rooms; clearly this represents a major portion of the student population.

Cable in the dorm rooms is more than just trying to pass time. It is about having the right to watch television in the comfort of one's own room.

In a recent survey of our NESCAC competitor schools, the Spectator found that all schools, except Middlebury College and Bates College, allow students the right to cable television in their individual rooms.

In the case of Bates, the college is in the process of allowing students to get cable in the dorm rooms. The results of the survey also showed that it was because of a strong student demand that various NESCAC administrations decided to grant their students the right of cable in dorm rooms.

Most of the NESCAC schools bill the cable fee to the student's tuition, some bill it through the phone/internet bill. At more than half of the NESCAC schools, the cable company oversees the operation of cable at the schools, while at others it is the school that assumes the responsibility. The initial setup costs for wiring cable to the dorm rooms were incurred by the school and the cable company.

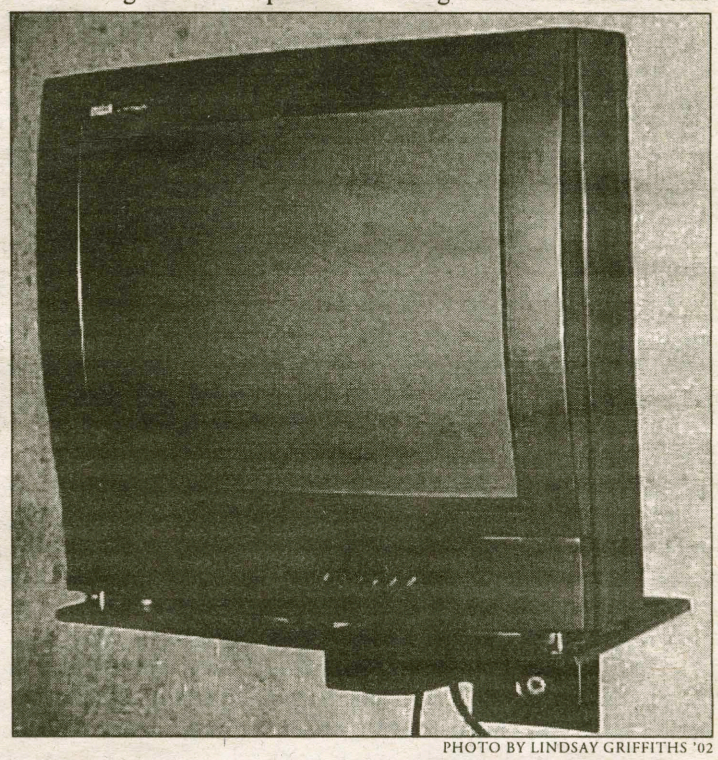


PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Hamilton is one of only two NESCAC schools that do not offer cable in individual dorm rooms.

According to the [Hamilton College] President's Office, the annual fee for cable in dorm rooms would be about $76,000-80,000 (about $50 dollars per student every year - which is around what most NESCAC schools are charging).

Various members of the administration have told Student Assembly representatives that the cable issue is not an ideological problem, but a financial one, and that the student's right to cable in dorm rooms was not a priority, fiscally speaking.

Students are at Hamilton to receive an education and learn about life, but how can the students do this when basic privileges (that student would have outside of the college) are not allowed? The bottom line to the entire cable issue is freedom of choice. It's having the right to view cable in our dorm room just like any of our friends at most NESCAC schools do.

The past, present and future of food at Hamilton: an overview of contract review

By Christopher M Viapiano '02
Special to the Spectator

Today a group of Hamilton students and administrators made an unannounced visit to the Vassar College dining halls. This is one of the final steps in the yearlong process of writing a new, five-year food service contract.

History

Four and a half years ago, the College made a commitment to review the food service contract every five years. The College wished to guarantee that there would never be a time when the service dictated by the current contract differed from the needs of the present Community.

The Process

In September 1999, at the behest of Betsy Espe, Director of Auxiliary & Contract Services and the primary author of college contracts, and Jack Spangler, then Student Assembly President, selected a group of students to serve on the newly created 'Food Review Committee'. Desiring a diverse group of students, Jack selected Ray Ash, Jenna Bussman, Myra Hamid, and Christopher Viapiano from the Class of 2002 and Maurice Michaane from the Class of 2003. Kelly J. Rose, Assistant Director of Residential Life and coordinator of special meal plan options also joined the group. Together, the committee members represent a wide-array of interests regarding health and nutrition, food likes and dislikes, thoughts about service standards and time of service, and many others.

Beginning in October, the group met every Thursday to identify the service standards that the next food service provider needed to meet. The committee discussed and debated the merits of 24 hour service, dinner in the pub, declining balance bonus meals, movable carts for Café Opus, lunch equivalency at Café Opus, ethnic nights in the dining halls, more comfort foods in the dining halls, and many more. The committee attempted to address all of the needs and wants of the diverse members of the Community.

After identifying what they wanted from a provider, the committee members hit the road to find the ideal provider. Members of the committee traveled to and sampled, or had associates of Ms. Espe report on, the food service at eighteen colleges and corporations serviced by six food service providers. The locales included Hobart and William Smith College, Colgate University, Alfred University, Macalester College, Franklin & Marshall Colleges, and the Oracle

see Food, page 4

Annex is inaugurated during FebFest festivities

from Annex, page 1

positive side, many students applauded the arrival of a place designated expressly for student activities. Student comments also included a variety of criticisms ranging from the aesthetics of the building to the quality of its facilities. The mix of cement and steel drew several comparisons to a high school gymnasium or the feeling of being in a Home Depot home improvement superstore. One student praised the central location near Beinecke, although another student did not like the color contrasts with the rest of Beinecke Village. One student lamented the paucity of restrooms and did not consider the building an improvement over Bundy Dining Hall. Even Mangold noted that "the sound was not of superior quality." He added that members of The Samples had offered suggestions for improving the acoustics and a professional sound company would soon handle it.

Director of Campus Activities Beverly Low has asked students to remember that the building is not finished yet and will receive the remaining work and necessary accoutrements such as curtains, furniture, and game tables.

"It is a huge challenge," Low stressed, "for my office to attempt to open such a large facility in the middle of a very busy spring semester. There is still a large amount of 'behind the scenes' work that needs to be done: electrical work, plumbing, door frames, locks, etc."

Low added that contractors would continue working in the Annex for at least another seven or eight days.

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

Harvard sued over name of HMO

BOSTON (AP) - The state is suing Harvard University over a financially strapped HMO's right to keep the name "Harvard."

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care was created in 1969 as Harvard Community Health Plan with the help of doctors affiliated with Harvard Medical School.

The health maintenance organization was put into state receivership last month after discovering larger than expected financial losses. State regulators estimate 1999 losses at $197 million.

In a letter to the state last week, Harvard University Provost Harvey V. Fineberg wrote that the school "asserts rights" to the use of its name - meaning it wants to block the use - by Harvard Pilgrim or by any successor.

Attorney General Thomas Reilly disagreed, saying the HMO also had a right to the Harvard name.

"Apparently, Harvard University now believes only Harvard University can use the name Harvard," Reilly said. The state filed the suit Wednesday.

Paul S. Grogan, Harvard's vice president of government and community affairs, said the university merely wants to have input about the future of Harvard Pilgrim and its name. Harvard Pilgrim covers 1.1 million people in Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire.

Student faces gov't hacking charges

BOSTON (AP) - A computer science student has been accused of a "coast to coast" hacking spree of military and government networks that prosecutors said gave him control of a NASA computer system.

Ikenna Iffih, 28, a student at Northeastern University's College of Computer Science, was charged Wednesday with three counts related to hacking that carry up to 10 years in prison and a fine of $250,000.

"All in all, the defendant used his home computer to leave a trail of cybercrime from coast to coast," U.S. Attorney Donald Stern said in a statement.

"The defendant gained illegal access ... either causing substantial business loss, defacing a Web page with hacker graphics, copying personal information or, in the case of a NASA computer, effectively seizing control," Stern said.

Prosecutors said there was no disruption to the nation's defenses, no meddling with satellite control and no improper use of private information.

Man found bound in frat fire

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) - Firefighters rescued a man who was bound with duct tape and barricaded inside a fraternity guest room during a blaze early Saturday that caused extensive damage.

No one was injured in the fire at the Sigma Nu fraternity house at Washington State University, but 20 students had to be evacuated from the building, said Fire Department spokesman Glenn Johnson.

The fire was tentatively attributed to a candle left burning on the windowsill in a resident's room, said fire Capt. Richard Dragoo.

Firefighters checking the house to make sure everyone had been evacuated found one man well away from the fire but with his wrists and ankles bound with duct tape and the door barricaded with furniture.

The college is investigating "the highly inappropriate behavior of taping the body and feet of a fraternity member and leaving him in a guest room in the house," the school's interim provost, Rom Markin, said in a news release.

Patients being alerted on infection

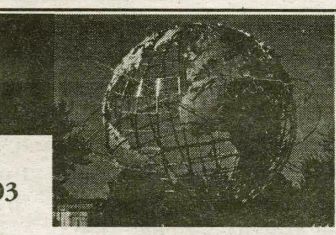
WASHINGTON (AP) - Georgetown University Medical Center is trying to contact nearly 300 former patients to warn them they might have been exposed to HIV and other infectious diseases by a medical technician accused of siphoning painkillers with potentially contaminated needles.

The patients are being advised to seek testing as a precaution, said medical center spokesman Paul Donovan.

"Even though the risk is extremely low we want to take the appropriate precautions for our patients," Donovan said. "We cannot confirm that anyone was or was not exposed to infection."

On Feb. 2, a nurse caught the technician, Jeffrey Royal, siphoning the powerful synthetic painkiller fentanyl from a patient's intravenous line with a syringe. He was immediately fired and arrested, Donovan said.

WORLD NEWS



Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

Pope begins Egypt pilgrimage

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Denouncing violence in the name of religion as "an offense against God," Pope John Paul II called for tolerance on Thursday as he began a visit to Egypt, where clashes between Muslims and Christians recently left 23 people dead.

In beginning his pilgrimage to retrace some of the epic passages from the Bible, John Paul became the first Roman Catholic pope to visit predominantly Islamic Egypt.

AP

Pope John Paul II greets top Sunni Muslim cleric Sheikh Mohammed Sayed.

The pontiff's three-day Egypt trip also gave him an opportunity to promote closer dialogue with Muslims and to try to overcome old rifts with Orthodox Christians.

NATO asks reinforcements in Kosovo

WASHINGTON (AP) - Responding to a call by NATO military commanders to reinforce the peacekeepers in Kosovo, France is preparing to dispatch an additional 600 to 700 soldiers, and U.S. Marines may follow.

A U.S. official said Wednesday that allied political authorities at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, were considering whether approximately 1,200 peacekeepers may be needed in addition to the French soldiers.

AP

French Defence Minister Alain Richard answers a question during a news conference at the Pentagon Wednesday, Feb. 23.

The official, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, said a U.S. Marine unit was among several allied forces designated for potential use as reinforcements in Kosovo. But he stressed that no decisions had been made on increasing U.S. troop involvement in the ethnically divided Serbian province.

The additional NATO troops would respond to violence between Serbs and ethnic Albanians in Kosovska Mitrovica, a divided city in northern Kosovo.

In Athens, the NATO secretary-general, Lord Robertson, said today that "the situation in Mitrovica is much quieter than it has been in the last week."

"There is no panic" among NATO members. "We have enough troops in Kosovo to deal with the situation," he said.

"We have issued a warning ... to all troublemakers, whoever they are in Kosovo, that their actions will not be tolerated," Robertson said.

French Defense Minister Alain Richard told a Pentagon news conference Wednesday that his government had approved sending 600 to 700 more troops to help quell the rising violence in Mitrovica. That represents about one-third of the reinforcements requested by NATO commanders.

Volcano wrupts in Philippines

LEGAZPI, Philippines (AP) - The Mayon volcano spewed a column of superheated ash into the air and streams of lava and debris down its slopes in an eruption today that sent thousands of nearby villagers fleeing.

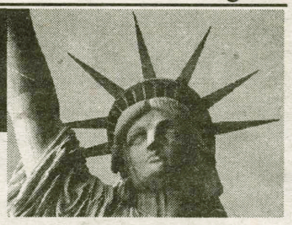
Villagers, many jarred from sleep by the first rumblings before the predawn eruption, boarded army trucks to evacuate. Evacuees crammed into school classrooms and some took refuge under trees in the schoolyard. No injuries were reported.

Officials warned that a more violent explosion could occur at any time. The eruption began with lava gushing out of the crater, accompanied by loud rumblings. Bright orange lava flowed 3.5 miles down the mountain's near-perfect conical slopes, and ash rained as far as seven miles away.

AP

Scenic Mayon Volcano spews ash-laden smoke.

NATIONAL NEWS



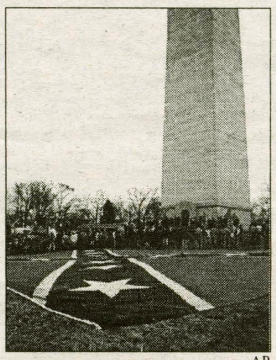
Compiled By
Christopher LaRosa '03

Some decry confederate monuments

FAIRVIEW, Ky. (AP) - In the midst of miles of canola and tobacco fields it rises, like some ancient stone spaceship. The fourth tallest monument in the United States; the tallest concrete obelisk in the world.

The gray-white needle, soaring 351 feet into the air, casts a long shadow over this postage stamp of a town in the rolling western Kentucky countryside.

These days the column is undergoing a $3 million, publicly funded repair, and that troubles some people because of whom the crumbling shaft honors: Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy.



AP

The Jefferson Davis State Historic Site in Fairview, Ky.

Around the nation each year, local and state governments spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to maintain monuments to soldiers and leaders of what amounted to a failed rebellion.

Descendants of Confederate veterans say the memorials recognize heritage and sacrifice. But increasingly active opponents - including many descendants of slaves - see the monuments that stand in town squares and on courthouse lawns across the South and beyond as an affront. They want them removed.

"Many of them were put up at taxpayer expense. It's an outrage," says historian James Loewen, author of the new book, "Lies Across America: What Our Historic Sites Get Wrong."

Loewen has found Confederate memorials in such unlikely spots as a park in Helena, Mont., which was still being organized as a territory as the Civil War was ending in 1864. The statue, erected in 1916 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, was propaganda, Loewen argues.

Hasbro to create GI Joe Doll of JFK

PAWTUCKET, R.I. (AP) - John F. Kennedy will be introduced to a new generation - as a GI Joe action doll.

The Kennedy Library Foundation in Boston has reached an agreement with toymaker Hasbro Inc. to produce a figure of the war hero and president as part of a collector's line that celebrates U.S. military heroes and famous battles.

AP

John F. Kennedy, skipper of PT boat 109, is shown relaxing in the South Pacific, 1943.

The foot-high doll dressed in PT-109 khakis will hold a coconut shard bearing a rescue plea Kennedy carved after the Japanese sank his boat in World War II. His hair will be molded in plastic and painted a light brown, and he will carry a knife.

Some proceeds from the sales will be donated to the library foundation. No specifics were released.

Bush campaign misquoted Ohio Sen.

WASHINGTON (AP) - In the heat of Michigan's Republican presidential primary battle, the campaign of George W. Bush charged ahead a little too fast.

The campaign gave reporters a quotation from Ohio Sen. George Voinovich condemning "Catholic voter alert calls" being made by a phone bank supporting John McCain's candidacy.

"This smear campaign is beneath contempt and beyond comprehension," it said.

Voinovich is Catholic, and a Bush supporter, but he never said that.

Voinovich put out his own statement vouching for the George W. and Laura Bush he had known for six years and saying, "There is not one drop of anti-Catholic blood in their veins."

Voinovich aide Mike Dawson confirmed today that the harsher quote was suggested language from the campaign, never authorized by the senator.

Food committee reviews potential providers

from ***Food****, page 2*

Corporation; the providers were Sodexho-Marriott, Aramark, Bon Appetit, Fine Host, Chartwells/Compass, and the Wood Company. The committee members observed a range of service standards and ideas on each trip and from each report. Comments ranged from approval to questioning how some students survived a year on that provider's food.

The next step in the process was to bring each food service provider on campus to meet with the members of the committee and the entire student body so they could get a sense of our facilities and what we were looking for from a provider. In February, representatives of the above named companies visited the campus. The result of that visit was a five-page proposal from each company introducing themselves and how they could benefit our campus as the college's next food service provider.

Using the service standards identified in October and November, the knowledge gained from site visits and reports, and the proposal from each company, the committee members chose two finalists: Aramark and Bon Appetit. The committee members believed that these companies offered the best-fit plan for the Community as it exists today and as it will exist in five years.

The Finalists

The Aramark Corporation, based in Philadelphia, currently provides food service at a number of colleges, universities, and corporations around the country. Some of the highlights include Yale University, Boston University, MIT, and the College of William and Mary.

In comparison, Bon Appetit has a long history of corporate accounts and today serves Compaq Computers, America Online, Sony, and Exxon, to name a few. The current Hamilton College operation represents Bon Appetit's flagship college and university operation. Other contracts include Macalester College, Reed College, and Stanford University.

Both providers will receive a final evaluation visit by the committee. Aramark's is today at Vassar. A Bon Appetit provider will receive a visit sometime in the near future.

What Remains

On or about 1 March, each company will receive a Request for Proposal — their responses are due back by 31 March. The committee will then review the proposals and have ten days to make a final decision. On 14 April, the College will announce its decision and forward it to both companies. The contract will be for four years with a one-year renewal option.

The Future

While the content of the initial five-page proposals is confidential, there are some exciting changes awaiting the Community next year. One of those changes, increased communication between the Community and the food service provider, can begin immediately. If you wish to convey your thoughts about the selection process, feel free to contact any of the committee members. If you wish to make a complaint or suggestion regarding the current service, it can also be communicated to one of the committee members, or directly to Bon Appetit via e-mail or simply by speaking with a manager in one of the dining halls.

Speaking on behalf of the committee, I wish to express our commitment to providing the Community with the best possible dining options and to reassure the Community that we have taken this task as seriously as the situation warrants.

Committee Members

• Betsy Espe Director of Auxillary & Contract Services	bespe
• Kelly J. Rose Assistant Director of Residential Life	kjrose
Class of 2000	
• Jack Spangler	jspangle
Class of 2002	
• Ray Ash	rash
• Jenna Bussman	jbussman
• Myra Hamid	mhamid
• Christopher Viapiano	cviapian
Class of 2003	
• Maurice Michaane	mmichaan

What Remains...

1 March	Requests for Proposals mailed
31 March	Proposals are due from Aramark & Bon Appetit
10 April	The Committee Decides
14 April	The College announces the next Food Service Provider

TONY'S PIZZA

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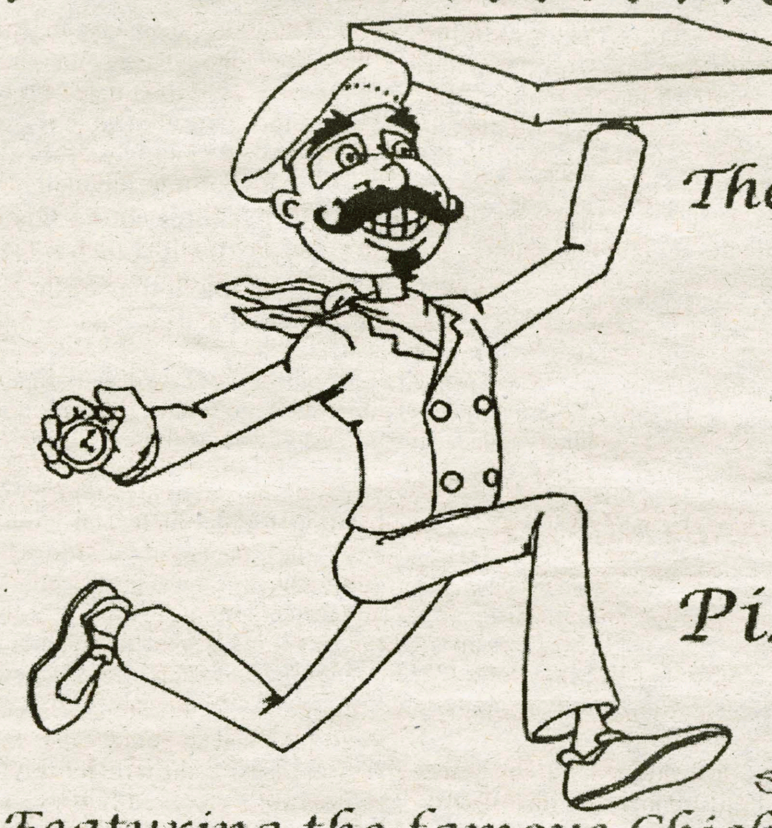

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Insight & Ideas

Law & Order : Parking Style

Twenty-two points, plus triple-word-score, plus fifty points for using all my letters. Game's over. I'm outta here. $1085. That's the grand total, the whole enchilada if you will. That's the grandiose amount I owe Hamilton College in parking tickets. Mom and dad would be proud. Well, probably not. In fact, my household would likely resemble a typical domestic violence skirmish seen Wednesday nights on Cops. Dad sporting a wife beater, opening up a can of whoop-ass on his absentminded son who just happened to park his unregistered vehicle one too many times in a fire lane.

J. P. LeBlanc

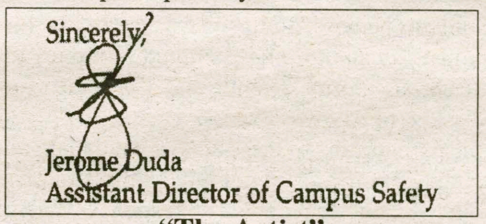
Actually, I parked it fourteen times too many in a fire lane. At least that's what the letter Assistant Director of Campus Safety Jerome Duda wrote me. I'd rather call him the artist formerly known as Jerome Duda because his signature does not look like anything resembling his name (see letter to me). I really don't have much to defend myself. Am I guilty? Hell yeah. I'm OJ guilty. Only I don't have Johnnie Cochran on my side for the scheduled administrative hearing for my parking tickets.

Maybe I should plea bargain. Maybe I should have Big Ern slowly parade my Blazer up and down College Hill Road on national TV while I sit in the back pondering the ramifications of my actions. Oops. Already been done. It probably wouldn't work anyway because Big Ern would have to stop at the Martin's Way crosswalk to let the pedestrians pass, which would enable the reliable, swift-footed campus safety officers to catch us.

Last Friday I ventured to Campus Safety with a fellow violator to meet the artist formerly known as Jerome Duda to discuss this matter. To be honest, I was a little nervous. I had heard all about the Artist and his Gestapo tactics. But you know what? He's a really nice guy (although he did whip out a notebook to write my name down in). He was informative, sincere, and nothing like the totalitarian administrator he's been made out to be. He was a little taken back with the fact that I owe approximately eleven hundred dollars, but all around a solid character. He informed us that we were to schedule an administrative hearing with Karen Green.

Now I have no one to be angry with. I can't be angry with the Artist because he's nice. Pat Ingalls is one of the sweetest women on campus contrary to popular belief, and security was just doing their job by putting cute, official-looking leaflets on my windshield. I can't get upset for someone doing his or her job. God forbid. Maybe the infamous disease that afflicts students here - apathyitis, has finally gotten to me. I'm at a loss here.

Does the school really want my eleven hundred ducats? They're already getting thirty-one thousand from pops. I know I can't afford it. Hopefully, Karen Green, Ben Mann, and I can figure something out. They can't really want it, can they? Maybe I'll suck it up and park my wheels in North Lot.



"The Artist"

North Lot is the ghetto of campus. That's where all the junkies, pimps, prostitutes and winos of Upstate New York and Hamilton hang out (besides the VT). Do I really want to register and succumb to the dangers of North Lot? For eleven hundred dollars I'd pretty much park my car at the observatory and clean the North Court toilets after a Thursday night party.

My only complaint with this entire process is going to an administrative hearing. I would much rather settle this with security than the hierarchy that is the administration. I'm no angel, but do I really deserve to meet with the associate dean of students and the judicial board chair? Probably not. Students that get caught pulling fire alarms or firing fire extinguishers (which seems to be a favorite here on the hill) usually get the dreadful punishment of social probation, which is really - drum roll, please - absolutely nothing! Those offenders have to keep their noses clean for a semester or two and their records are wiped clean. Maybe I can be the first to try "parking probation". But then what's the use of writing out tickets, the question Ms. Green is most likely to ask when I propose this plan. My response will be traditional and conservative, somewhere along the lines of "I don't know."

I'm not waking anyone up at 4:30am on a Sunday morning or tagging my name all over the walls of the second floor bathroom in Dunham with a Sharpie. My car is not registered for crying out loud! And I'm paying ELEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS. I'm not trying to rip on the school — I actually like it here (see Gormley, William J.). I just don't like being "charged" with anything. According to a second letter from the Artist, I am being accused of violating page 85, number 15 of the handbook: "Violation of published College policies, rules or regulations." That makes it sound like I got caught smoking crack out of a ten-foot long pipe with twenty scantly clad strippers reciting Michigan militia doctrine in my dorm room. I just tried to save fifty bucks by not registering my car, that's all.

Snow Days: America's New Urban National Holidays

Snow means something different to urban Americans than it does for rural Americans. In the city, a major snowstorm is a harbinger of inactivity. Businesses, schools and government offices close down in the face of the cold manna from heaven. Everyone who works in a non-essential function gets to take some unforeseen time off from work, get off the rage-filled roads, and settle down at home to watch storm updates on television. By contrast, rural areas of our nation still retain a few vestiges of old agrarian reactions to snowfall. A major snowstorm in a small town signifies extra work in various forms, rather than relief from work. Far from being delighted at the opportunity to relinquish contact with the bustling metropolis all around them, rural citizens view the prospect of snowbound isolation from their already distant neighbors with some trepidation.

Riley Fenner

The differing notions attached to inclement winter weather can be traced to the distinct notions of work and of property that are inherent in rural and urban societies. Urbanites often tend to view work and property alike as a distasteful means to the ends of self-satisfaction and improvement. This is how people justify working long hours at a financial institution in Manhattan and paying exorbitant prices for a confining apartment. The work and property are distasteful, but they allow people to enjoy the cultural and debaucherous opportunities of a thriving metropolis while paving the way for a lucrative future career. Work and social life become closely related, perhaps appearing as parallel vertical lines, like twin skyscrapers spanning the years ahead. A surprise reprieve from work and socializing, brought on by a snowstorm that paralyzes transportation, is welcomed by the urban professional as a chance to enjoy a rare commodity, privacy, and maybe some of the benefits of a rising income along with it.

In a rural society, work and property are more often closely interconnected. Property can be a source of income as easily as it can be a source of expense. As a result, a great deal of attention is paid to the maintenance of that property in the face of the wraith of nature. Snow is another burden that must be shouldered in an agricultural community, and it makes interaction with friends and neighbors, a welcome respite from the prevalent isolation, more difficult.

Of course, there aren't many who view snow like that anymore. Most people are indoctrinated at an early age to cherish snowstorms as a respite from school and a chance to go sledding, and the association is simply carried on into adulthood, when a snowstorm means a day off from work and a chance to go skiing. Is it necessarily better or worse for people to view snow as a source of work or a respite from it? Ideally, it would probably be better for people to accept snow days for what they bring them, whether it be work, play, or some of each. The only danger lies in the great dichotomy, concerning more than just snow, that exists between those who love snowstorms and those who hate them.

Media Mayhem Resulting in Mass Hysteria of Public

Last week public programming reached an all time low with the airing of "Who wants to marry a multi-millionaire?" Never have our pooled intelligence, hopes, and dreams been so insulted.

This past Tuesday, we, like many other people throughout the country, sat through two hours of institutional corruption and media hype in disgust. We swore to ourselves that we would not watch such a program, but we faltered. Embarrassingly enough, we were lured into a room by the hoots, jeers, and hollers of our friends, themselves all in disbelief of this degradation of social values, not to mention the entertainment industry.

Brad Beacham & Jennifer Irvine

Call us old-fashioned, but the union of a crazed millionaire and one of fifty gold-digging ex-pageant winners is a travesty. Only after the program came to a grand finale of marital mockery, did we realize that we were as much at fault as the Fox network itself.

Today's shock value culture lives on through media hype, ignorance, mindless curiosity, and apathy. Appalled viewers hung onto each parting word of every commercial segue to see what could possibly be served up next. We hung on in astonishment, waiting to view whatever horrible disfigurement or mistake of modern science lay in wait of the "lucky" winner. To make matters worse, at the end of this sinister process we were unfortunate enough to read the lips of the "dream couple" as they declared their heartfelt "love and happiness" for each other. While maybe she is happy now that she is filthy rich, we certainly hope that he has a prenuptial agreement in the works.

Fox seems to know us better than we know ourselves, young friends. This performance was all done in the name of ratings and Fox received them. Maybe next time Fox will have fifty men in a no-holds-barred, King of the Ring event, fighting for the hand and bank roll of one "lucky" wealthy widow; what a noble concept.

Outside of our disgust and contempt for this example of modern entertainment, we feel that this is just another example of a commonly recognized trend. American society has become a "culture", using the term loosely, of self-important, over-educated, cynical lapdogs. Between your Jerry Springers and your wildest police chases and crashes, we are continuously manipulated by the media and entertainment industries. Often times we, as well as many others, may recognize these moral transgressions only to justify them as amusing.

What has happened to the quality of entertainment, not to mention the status quo's level of intelligence? What mes-

see Media, page 7

EDITORIAL

Apathy at Hamilton College: Clinton, Thompson and more

What does it take to get a reaction around here? People don't seem to get excited or "fired up" about anything. What kind of an editorial do we need to write to get a reaction? We're not saying we want negative letters or letters agreeing with us. We just want somebody to tell us something.

We wrote an editorial bashing First Lady Hillary Clinton's run for the Senate. Mrs. Clinton has no record to speak of and has not provided any rationale for her candidacy. She has never lived in New York, never worked in New York, never paid taxes in New York and never shown any interest in New York, but suddenly wants to represent the State of New York in the Senate. Does this make sense?

It does not to us, and we told you that two weeks ago and nobody responded. Surely, there must be some people (students, professors, alumni, or administrators) who have an opinion of Mrs. Clinton. Where are you? What will it take to get you to write something to us?

Last week, we wrote that Acting Dean of Students Nancy Thompson was out of line for sending an email informing students that they must pay an inordinate amount of money to cover dorm damage and campus damage. In certain dorms (South and Carnegie, for example), the amount of money students were asked to pay was excessive.

It is the school's responsibility to find out the perpetrators of these acts of vandalism on our campus and in individual dorms. It is not Nancy Thompson's, nor any administrator's job to persecute all students for the actions of some. Again, we received no response. Where are you Dean Thompson? Where are you students who are affected by her written statement? Where is the Office of Residential Life?

This school has a lot of problems. There is not enough parking. There are no fraternity houses. There are not enough places for students to have parties. There is not enough quality food in the dining halls. There is not enough support for Hamilton athletics. There is a housing shortage.

The school spends money on projects that are just dumb. Who allocates money for the school? They spent a mind boggling $4 million dollars renovating the Alpha Delta Phi house. For that amount of money, Hamilton could have built over 30 private homes.

Hamilton spent thousands of dollars building the Pavilion. Whoever decided to build that useless piece of property should be disciplined. Was it Assistant Director of Physical Plant, Terry Hawkridge? It appears the only use for the Pavilion is to have barbecues for employees over the summer when students are not here.

What about spending some money to build some new parking lots? How much could that possibly cost? We're not experts, but it could not be that expensive. Is it fair to have people park in North Lot to attend a sporting event in the Field House? Hamilton is supposed to be accessible to all people, yet the elderly are forced to park cars far away and walk in the freezing cold to the gym because of inadequate parking facilities.

Can we get some answers? Why did the school spend hundreds of thousands of dollars (if not more) to buy fraternity houses (and also fight lawsuits brought by many societies) when many of them continue to go unused? Did anyone have a vision of what their use would be when the school made the Residential Life Decision in 1995?

There are a lot of problems at Hamilton. There are a number of questions regarding policy here, yet there are a lack of answers. Does anyone care? What will it take to get people to get excited about these issues? We don't know where to go from here. Do people want these issues uncovered? Does anyone have feelings about these questions and issues?

Write to us. Email us. Call us. Do something. Please!

The Spectator

Celebrating our 100th year in print

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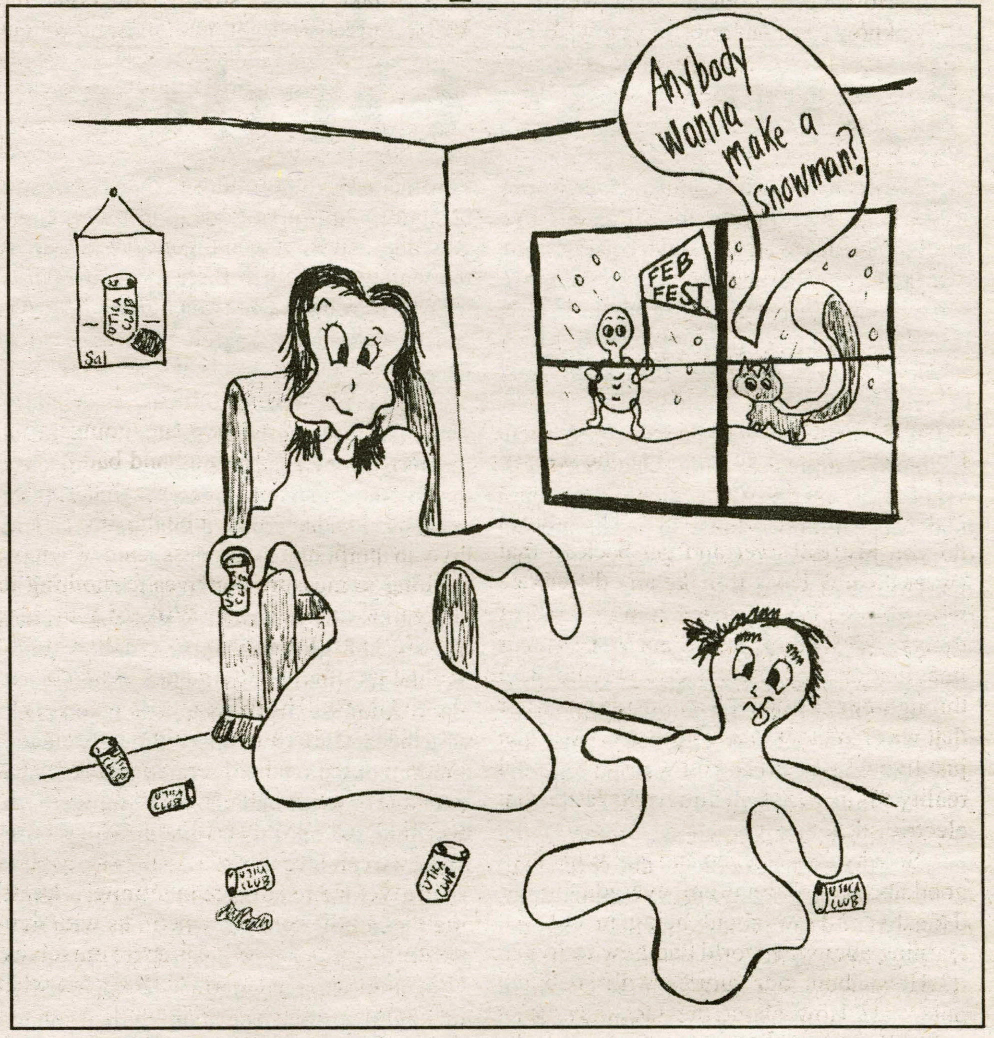

LETTERS

To the Editors,

I just wanted to thank Kurt Mangold and the entire Febfest committee for organizing a truly outstanding "Wintermission". It was wonderful to have this celebration return to the hill, and I hope that it continues to thrive and improve in the future. I honestly didn't know what to expect going into the week, and was pleasantly surprised at almost every step of the way. I tried to take advantage of as many events as I could, and was thrilled to see so many other students doing the same, especially at the fireworks Friday evening. So thank you Kurt, and the rest of the committee, for organizing a campus-wide celebration that Hamilton can be proud of.

Honey Baer

Questioning Reality

Is it possible to speak only in questions? To think only in questions? How do we go through our days without asking more questions? How can we look at what we have, all we know, without questioning it? What came before us? And why did it come? What's in store for all of us and why? Why don't we all start asking ourselves these questions?

What are you doing getting up in the morning? Is it that alarm clock going off? Is there anything else that pushes you out from under those satin sheets? Are you sure?

JUSTIN TYLER

What is it? Cold shower in North? Crusty Common's eggs? Lecture about the statistical differences between North and South Dakota's Ouiji board trade? How many times do you just roll over and get back to that sweet dream? Does it make any difference what you do? Does it, in the grand scheme of things? Why not just lie there and let your imagination go? Why can't we just live through our dreams? Wouldn't it be easier that way? What if in a couple years you can just live whatever life you want in a virtual reality? Will you? Can you live through that electric socket?

So why do we get up and go? What is so good about our hum drum, everyday, mundane lives? How about being in college, learning about the world and how to live in it? How about our futures with so much potential? How about the fact that we're even alive and able to make it through the day and night? Why don't we realize? Why don't we value what we have? How come we all complain about the little things? When are we going to realize how great it is to not be dead, dumb or hungry at our age?

But things do bring us down, don't they? And what are we supposed to do? Why can't we just take it all in stride? How come the bad things stay right in the front of our minds, overtaking the good? Why do we put ourselves through that? Why don't we just take a walk and remember how fortunate we are? What keeps dragging us back to depression? Is it the loss of those we love? Regret over mistakes we've made? Chances at greatness that have come and gone? When all of these things pile up, is there any hope for us?

So how does all of this fit together? Are we all trapped in a delicate balance between triumph and tragedy? Is it a vicious cycle from which none of us can escape? Yes. For the rest of our lives we are going to be confronted with both good and bad experiences. We all must realize though that without one side there cannot be the other. If we live in perpetual happiness then we have nothing to measure our lives to, nothing to drive us to achieve more. Without both sides we are lost. We can try to create a world around us where nothing goes wrong but in the end that will be the biggest tragedy of all.

Here at Hamilton we have created a place far removed from reality where it is possible to forget about the bad things in the world, focusing only on the good we have. Here we can lose touch with the shady parts of life, yet we're not here indefinitely. Leaving the bubble can overwhelm us with devastating results unless we prepare ourselves. How? Question your world. Find out what makes everything tick. Find out what drives you and where you want to go. Curiosity hasn't killed anyone. Don't let anything slip by. If you do, I guarantee that your alarm clock will start to sound a little different.

THE BURR-OMETER

Keeping tabs on Hamilton College's mistakes, flubs and general boo-boos

This Week: Where have you gone oh lounge of mine?

Last semester Hamilton College put a great deal of money into renovating the Dwight Lounge on the second floor of Bristol. The room had been used frequently in the past for department receptions, poetry readings, rehearsal space and as a general meeting place for campus organizations. It was an excellent space, so you can imagine the campus' delight to hear that the College was going to spend a wheelbarrow of money redoing it. A semester later, the delight has passed.

Word has it that Dwight Lounge has brand new hardwood floors, all new furniture, new curtains, and who knows, maybe a hot tub and unicorn rides; the campus wouldn't know. Ever since the renovation, Dwight Lounge has been closed and locked, cut off from nearly all campus programming. The campus organizations that formerly used the space have been kicked to the curb. No other space with Dwight Lounge's qualities has been made available to the campus.

So what is Dwight Lounge used for? Trustee meetings? Free Mason clubhouse? Maybe Elvis and Tupac Shakur have been crashing there collaborating on their new album? What's the point of renovating the space and then hardly using it? Hopefully the College doesn't have any plans to renovate our classrooms, we may have to learn in the Glen. And why can't we use Dwight Lounge? Students can't handle new furniture? We might gnaw off a couch leg?

A complaint like this seems out of place when the campus has just been provided with a brand new social space. However, many people used Dwight Lounge as a quiet place to study and it was a popular place for several campus organizations to meet. It's hard to meet in a place that resembles your high school gym such as the Annex, and even harder to study there. The College renovated Dwight Lounge and then swept it under the rug with no intent of informing the campus. The fact that it is kept under lock and key reveals the lack of trust the College places in its students to handle nice things. Are we toddlers with a new toy or college students ready to enter society? The answer lies behind the locked doors of Dwight Lounge.

Weekend Horoscopes

For the week of February 25, 2000

Capricorn (December 21 - January 19)
Worried about a test? Just take a deep breath, relax, and try to recover.
Your lucky food this weekend: A big wheel of cheese

Aquarius (January 20 - February 17)
Try to do something nice for someone this weekend, the rewards are endless.
Your lucky place this weekend: The Nice and Easy

Pisces (February 18 - March 19)
Your never-ending series of activities still continues. The big one is behind you, so enjoy your time off before the next one begins.
Your lucky state this weekend: South Carolina

Aries (March 20 - April 19)
When it comes time to have fun you know how to get the party started.
Your lucky piece of clothing this weekend: A Mumu

Taurus (April 20 - May 19)
Wanna get to meet some new people? Asking a friend to get you introduced may be the right way to go.
Your lucky instrument this weekend: A drum

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
People talk, though they might not mean any harm. If you don't want the chatter to continue, take a stand and put and end to it.
Your lucky class year: Freshman

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
Although someone close to you may take on some new looks this weekend, don't be scared. They are the same person inside.
Your lucky activity: Managing

Leo (July 22 - August 22)
Sometimes something as innocent as a massage can lead to something dangerous, so watch out.
Your lucky movie: The Wedding Singer

Virgo (August 23 - September 21)
Worried about the loss of something close to your head? Don't fuss and everything will come back to you.
Your lucky drink: A beer

Libra (September 22 - October 22)
Make sure you pay off any debts to those you live with.
Your lucky food this weekend: A pizza

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)
You have fallen back into some old habits this week, so remember to take a T.O. before you forget your focus once again.
Your lucky purchase this weekend: A personal washer and dryer

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 20)
You have been both naughty and nice this week. Keep it up this weekend and who knows what may happen.
Your lucky event this weekend: A matinee

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from Media, page 5

sages to these "specials" send? We shudder to think what may become of children who are raised on this kind of programming. Children today have already been affected by access to common cinematic themes of fantasy that only help to perpetuate blood lust in American society.

At times we second-guess ourselves thinking, "Oh, don't be such a puritanical schmuck." If we were afforded the opportunity to meet ourselves from six years ago, we are sure that a heated debate would ensue. But nevertheless, something definitely is amiss.

We are by no means promoting censorship; we are promoting awareness. We call "shenanigans!" on the entertainment industry. Enough is enough. Offer something that is at least slightly intellectually stimulating other than PBS, TLC, and the like.

Have the great entertainment think tanks been drained to such a point that programming relies on mindless obedience and negative feedback? We hope this turns out to be one extravagant sociological experiment or our own personal nightmare, and not a valid social commentary or sign of the times.

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes : The Dangers of SUV's

DAVID SCAMURRA

One of the requirements for completing my Persuasive Argument class was to research consumer behavior of a college-age population that has significant environmental impacts. I chose to research the environmental hazards of Sports Utility Vehicles, otherwise known as SUV's. I have come to realize that we have little to no need of SUV's in our society. The number of SUV's on American roads is mind-boggling, and the negative impact SUV's have on our environment is upsetting. I suggest people make more environmentally conscientious decisions when buying their next vehicle.

Just to give you an idea about the number of SUV's on campus, I went on a tour of various parking lots. My transportation was my Ford Explorer, an SUV. As my SUV injected heavy amounts of gas emissions into the fresh Clinton air, I first drove through Dunham parking lot counting eight SUV's. Milbank and other "Dark Side" lots housed a total of thirty-two, and as my Explorer continued to guzzle gas, I headed toward North Lot. I passed two more SUV's on College Hill Rd. and one more on Campus Rd. With my engine still running and gas fumes emitting, I tallied eighteen more SUV's. Including my Explorer, the total came to sixty-two SUV's in three parking areas on campus. I would have driven by Bundy's parking lots as well, but unfortunately my SUV's low gas mileage coupled with my even lower budget prevented more from continuing the investigation.

I know you might be wondering what the big deal is about having so many SUV's on campus. Well folks, it is not just a campus problem, it is a national problem! According to an article written by Ellen Goodman, published in The Boston Globe, "one out of every five vehicles sold in the U.S. is an SUV". That is a lot of SUV's when you consider the amount of vehicles being operated by American citizens every day. So what is the concern? Why should we care about the number of SUV's that are already on the road? Two words: air pollution! The common trend with all SUV's is that they have uncommonly low gas mileage (as low as 15 miles per gallon), in comparison to cars, which average in the high 20's. In 1995, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reported that, "fuel economy has dropped to 23.8 gallons per mile due to the trend of SUV's." This is the lowest it has been since 1980 before there were laws concerning air pollution, and before SUV's became an available commodity.

So what's the big deal? How does it affect me if the fuel economy has dropped to record lows? The lower the fuel economy means the more oil and gasoline our country will waste. Using more of these natural resources means emitting more pollutants into the air. Across the country we are having problems, smog in Los Angeles and air pollution in New York City. According to the Sierra Club of Clean Air (an environmental research group), this smog and other forms of air pollution are "threatening children with asthma and older Americans with heart and lung diseases." Still not concerned? How does it make you feel to know that a study conducted by the UCLA School of Medicine concluded that air pollution's damage to lung function resembles the damage done by smoking tobacco?

Let's be ethical. Who really needs an SUV? Think of all the extra gas emissions that we breathe in when using our SUV's. Overuse of SUV's include the trips we take to the store to buy milk, taking the ten mile drive to visit a relative, or that half an hour we leave our SUV running while we park outside of our significant other's house giving that unusually long kiss goodnight. Is an SUV really a necessity for these functions? For that wise guy who is thinking that he needs an SUV for that kiss goodnight, go buy a station wagon!

Fellow students, the truth is that not many of us are going to need these gas-guzzlers for drives through the Rocky Mountains or rescuing the Swedish Bikini Team from the top of Mount Everest. We do need to have more respect for our natural surroundings and the air we breathe. We need to take care of this air because it needs to remain the breath of life and not become the breath of death for future generations. Controlling the amount of SUV's that are on our roads is not the answer, but it is a start. Lowering the number of SUV's on the road is something we can all have an impact on. Make rational decisions when buying your next vehicle. Also, if you own an SUV, be aware of the excess damage you are doing to our surroundings. As for me, well, does anybody want to buy a 1996 Ford Explorer in mint condition, with 96,748 miles on it?

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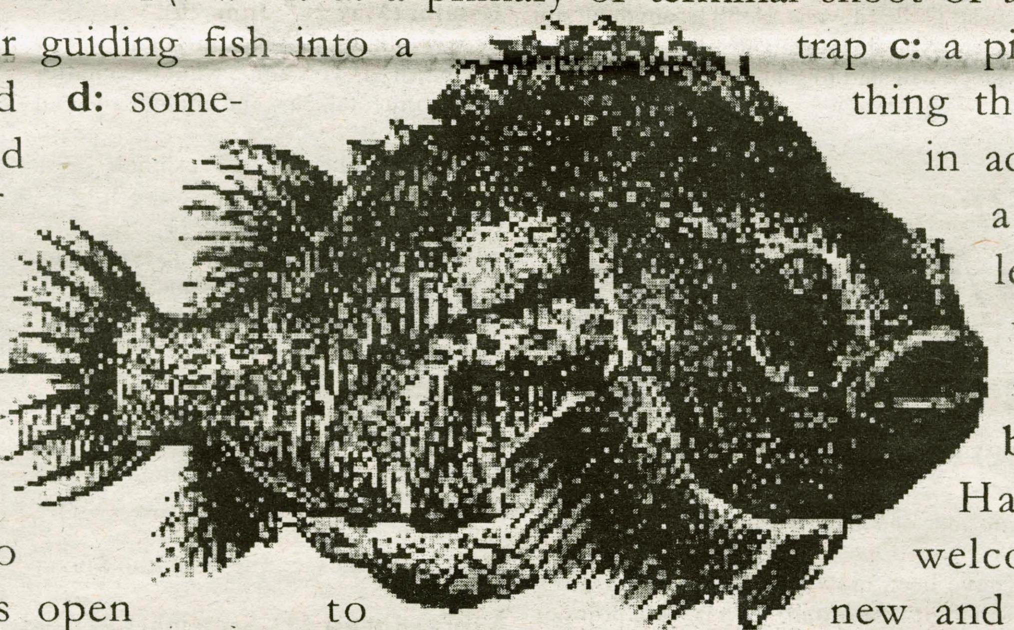
leader \'lēd - ə r\ *n* **1: a:** a primary or terminal shoot of a plant **b:** something for guiding fish into a trap **c:** a pipe for conducting fluid **d:** something that ranks first **2:** a horse placed in advance of the other horses of a team **3:** a person that leads: as **a:** a person who has commanding authority or influence **b:** a unique student at Hamilton College who welcomes a challenge and is open to new and exciting experiences while sharing his/her wisdom and insight with others.



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Science in the News

Massive spill at gold mine dumps tons of cyanide into Danube river

Major Eastern European waterway flooded with toxins, water supplies threatened.

By Peter Brunette '02
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In what is being called one of the worst environmental disasters since Chernobyl, a containment reservoir on Janurary 30 spilled 100 tons of cyanide and heavy metals over the earthen walls of a containment lake operated by the Aurul gold mine near Baia Mare, in northern Romania.

PHOTO BY NEWSMAKERS

Hungarian fisherman Sandor Pocs, on the Tisza river, holds a fish that was poisoned by a cyanide spill at a gold mine late last month.

The Romanian government is blaming Esmeralda Exploration, an Australian company which is the primary owner of the Aurul gold mine. The spill entered the Tisza river via a nearby creek. The Tisza is a tributary of the Danube, which is now carrying cyanide through Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Hungary, poisoning the water, and killing scores of fish and other wildlife.

Mining companies have used cyanide to extract gold from crushed rock for over 100 years. Cyanide-containing compounds are mixed with a water-based solution that can recover nearly 100 percent of the gold out of the mine, making it profitable for mining companies to process much lower-grade ores.

The cyanide levels near the spill have been recorded anywhere from 4.5 to 700 times higher than the Romanian standards of 0.01 milligram per liter for human consumption, according to the Associated Press. Drinking water is contaminated and people are being forced to drink mineral water provided by the government. The same contaminated drinking water that is causing increasing illnesses has forced hospitals to only admit emergency cases.

Cyanide is a poison that kills by blocking the transport of oxygen across cell walls, inducing respiratory failure.

While in the river, cyanide kills most life in its path, but it will eventually pass downstream and dissipate to safe levels. Heavy metals cannot leave the environment as easily. Iron, cadmium and other heavy metals will remain in the mud and sediments and may spread through the environment through groundwater and leach into soils. This in turn will effect numerous ecosystems, crops grown by farmers and grazing lands used by livestock.

The spill has prompted environmentalists to redouble their call for an end to environmentally destructive mining processes.

"The most hazardous technologies should be entirely banned, alternative sources of raw materials should be used, legal instruments should rule out the application of double standards by mining companies and their financial responsibility for the damage incurred should be safeguarded," Vojtech Kotecky an activist with the environmentalist Rainbow Movement, said in a statement released by the Friends of the Earth, a Romanian activist group.

Though the spill began more than three weeks ago, it continues to cause new problems as cyanide seeps into wells and reservoirs through melting snow. At Turnu Magurele, 78 miles southwest of Bucharest, cyanide concentrations were 9.4 times more than the acceptable level for human consumption on Monday, and levels in the western section of Bulgaria were 40 percent higher than international standards, the AP reported.

Towns as far as 100 miles away are storing drinking water to prepare for when the spill reaches them and their water supply must be cut off. Authorities in eastern Romania plan to close the gates between the Danube and a channel to the Black Sea.

Poisons are flowing through Yugoslavia, Hungary and Bulgaria. Environmentalists are calling it the worst disaster in Europe since Chernobyl.

The elusive red planet

By Scott Kalberer '01
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Though once hailed as an important part of NASA's long-term Mars exploration program, the ill-fated Mars Polar Lander has failed to provide new information about the red planet. The story of the lander's loss, and the fruitless search that followed, is the most recent of several difficulties the American space program has faced in exploring the final frontier.

The approximately $120 million Mars Polar Lander was a key part of the Mars Surveyor Program, which set as its goal the search for life and useful resources on Mars. The lander was equipped with a surface imager (video equipment used to map the planet's surface), a robotic arm (used to gather samples of Martian rocks), meteorology package (equipment for measuring weather conditions), and a gas analyzer (used to determine the composition of the planet's atmosphere).

A major objective of the mission was to search for evidence of water in the form of ice, and to record evidence of climate change. Water is essential for life on Earth; if water ever existed on Mars, life may have too.

The lander had two forms of radio for communication with NASA. The ultra high frequency (UHF) relay was linked to Earth by way of a satellite orbiting the red planet called Mars Climate Orbiter, the vessel from which the lander was ejected. NASA technicians had an additional communication link to the lander through the Mars Global Surveyor, a satellite currently in orbit that was launched in 1996 to survey the mysterious planet's outer atmosphere.

A $120 million space mission is lost.

The spacecraft was launched from Cape Canaveral on January 3, 1999 using a Delta II 7425 rocket built by Boeing. It was believed to have landed on Mars on December 3, 1999 at about noon Pacific time. With 11 months to travel, the ship averaged a speed of almost two miles per second.

The lander entered the Martian atmosphere at a speed of 15,400 miles per hour and experienced forces 12 times Earth's gravity, making the landing one of the most risky parts of the mission. Two pods that were specially designed to crash below the planet's surface, called microprobes, were ejected from the lander before impact; scientists intended to use the probes to characterize the Martian subsurface.

Although the lander should have communicated with NASA soon after landing, no signals were received on the day of impact. NASA engineers at first believed the craft might have gone into a "safe mode" 20 minutes after landing and could not receive the instructions to point its antenna at earth, but surveillance the next day revealed no communication.

The engineers then listened to see if the lander would automatically transmit using the UHF frequency and the Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft as a relay system, but there was still nothing to be heard. NASA scientists could not understand the problem, since there did not appear to be any surface features on Mars that would block radio communications. NASA had no more luck trying to communicate with the two microprobes; it was believed that they had run into rough terrain or that their batteries had failed to warm up, rendering them useless.

NASA officials were forced to acknowledge that despite heroic efforts by the flight team and many hours of labor, contact with the spacecraft was probably lost.

They next turned to scientists at Stanford University for help. Stanford operates a 46-meter radio antenna that is capable of recording a signal from the lander's UHF antenna. The NASA engineers programmed the spacecraft to broadcast across the entire sky in order to give

*Please see **Mars**, page 10*

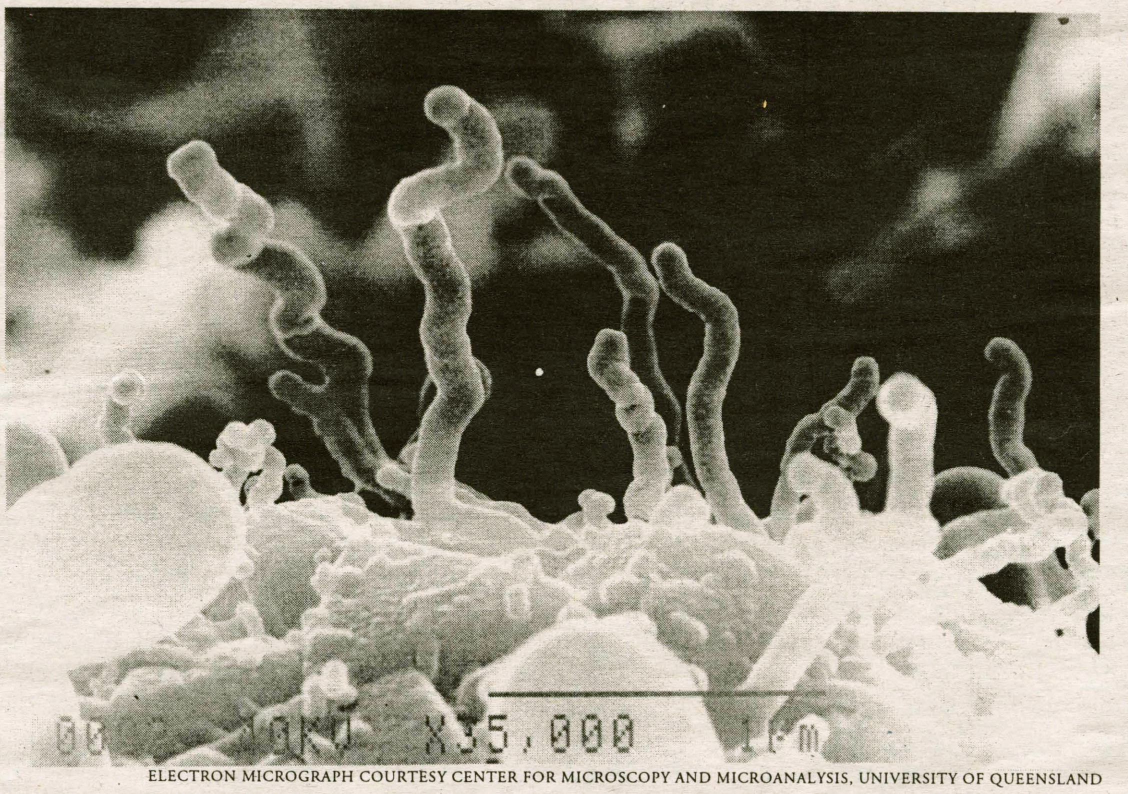
Nanobes: life at its smallest

By Miccah Dusablon '02
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Australian scientists discovered in 1997 tiny filament-like organisms in ancient underground sandstone in Australia. These organisms are only 20 to 150 nanometers (20 to 150 billionths of a meter) in length. They are smaller than any known bacteria, which range in size from 150 nm to 50 mm.

Researchers report that these incredibly small organisms, known as "nanobes," contain DNA and seem to grow spontaneously. If they actually are forms of life, then these nanostructures are the smallest living creatures ever found. But are the nanobes too small to be considered alive?

The nanobes were growing on Triassic and Jurassic sandstone three miles beneath the Australian seabed, where they were discovered and brought up from an offshore oil drilling site. They are now being studied at the University of Queensland by Senior Research Fellow Philippa Uwins, who heads the nanobe research project.



ELECTRON MICROGRAPH COURTESY CENTER FOR MICROSCOPY AND MICROANALYSIS, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

An electron micrograph of nanobes. Found three miles below the Australian seabed, nanobes may be the smallest form of life on Earth.

Her team has examined the nanobes using electron microscopes, X-ray spectroscopy, and DNA staining. Although not much is known about the nanobes yet, Uwins and her team have determined that the nanobes are hollow, membrane-bound structures composed of carbon, nitrogen and oxygen. The researchers say that the nanobes appear to have cytoplasm and a nucleus, as well as DNA.

But are they a form of life? Scientists are still debating whether these nano-scale organisms can be considered alive. Kenneth Nealson, a NASA astrobiologist, has his doubts. In an MSNBC interview he stated, "I just don't understand how they can have a DNA-based organism in something as small as 20 nanometers. If it's right, I don't see how they can have DNA in there."

Nealson points out that a DNA double helix is about 5 to 6 nanometers across, and a cell wall is a minimum of 5 to 7 nanometers. Therefore, the membrane and the DNA add up to about 20 nanometers, the size of the smallest nanobe. That would leave little room for anything else inside the organism.

The organisms do not appear large enough to contain materials needed for metabolism and reproduction. Nealson also told MSNBC that no one has yet proven that the smaller nanostructures are indeed self-contained and self-replicating organisms. He theorizes that these nanostructures could be viruses or fragments of an organism.

If the nanobes are actually forms of life, the scientific implications are enormous. In fact, some scientists believe the nanobes could be further evidence of life on Mars. In 1996, a meteorite from Mars was found in Antarctica, where it fell to Earth 13,000 years ago. This 4.5 billion-year-old meteorite, known as ALH84001, contained worm-like 'nanofossils.'

Such a small organism might point to ancient life on Mars

Although the organisms found on ALH84001 are not identical to the nanobes found in Australia, they are similar in size. NASA biologists believe that if organisms only 20 nanometers long can be identified as living, then perhaps the nano-sized fossils on the meteorite were also a living species.

"If it is proven beyond doubt scientifically that such small organism exist," said Uwins, "it will be a major contributor to the controversial debate concerning extraterrestrial life and the origin of life on Earth."

Despite skepticism, Uwin and her colleagues published their findings in the November/December 1998 *American Mineralogist*. In December they received an Australian Research Council grant to continue their analyses of the nanobes. In a university announcement, Uwins said, "We will be the first group to perform DNA sequencing on a new life form with important and significant implications in many areas of research."

Mars exploration proves to be a challenging feat for NASA

*from **Red planet**, page 9*

the radio antenna a better chance of picking up the signal. For many days the antenna failed to pick up a signal.

NASA also commanded the Mars Global Surveyor to fly over the landing site in the hope of snapping pictures of the fallen spacecraft. No signs of the Polar lander were reported from the Surveyor. It was also found that the location of the landing site was not known with complete accuracy.

In a last ditch effort, the Surveyor was directed to listen for the Lander around the clock, but again to no avail. Finally on January 17, 2000 NASA ended its efforts to regain communication with the Lander, although Stanford continued to search.

Hope appeared in the form of a weak transmission picked up by the Stanford radio antenna on January 27. Several days were required to process the data and determine if the signal was really of Martian origin. The analysis was complicated by the fact that the signal's power was an incredibly weak one watt, and therefore very difficult to pick out from the constant radio static that exists throughout space.

The signal was of the right frequency to have come from the spacecraft, and it exhibited the Doppler effect expected for travel from Mars to Earth. Radio telescopes located in the Netherlands, Italy, and England then joined the search. Although it was unlikely that the lander could still be of any use in scientific research, knowledge of the lander's fate and current condition would have been useful for further attempts to land on the red planet.

These last rays of hope were extinguished on February 16. When NASA carefully analyzed the data from the Stanford radio telescope and determined that the signals were from Earth and not from the Mars Polar Lander, the mission was finally aborted.

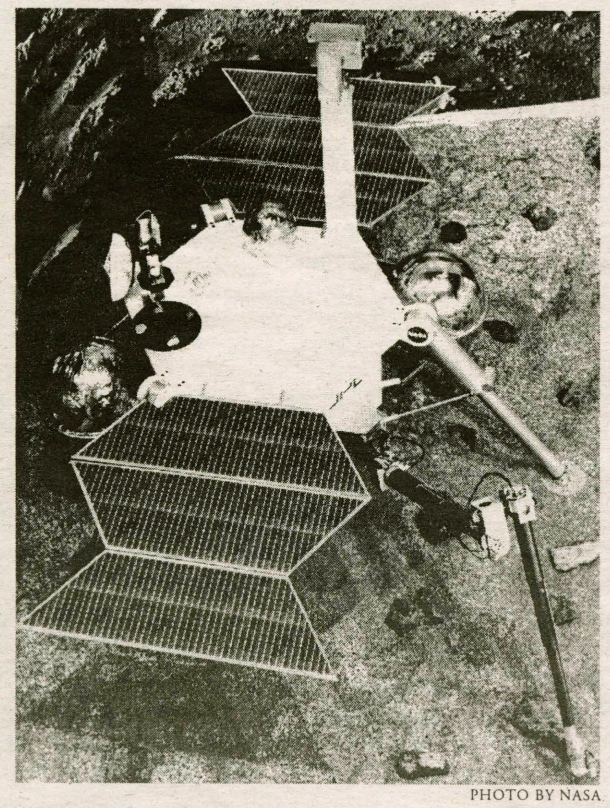


PHOTO BY NASA

The Mars Global Surveyor. The satellite sends data to Earth from orbit around Mars, helping scientists explore the possibility of life there.

Other NASA Missions to the Red Planet

The Path Finder Mission

Launched on December 4, 1996 this mission used a landing pod to deploy a surface rover. This mission is acknowledged as one of NASA's most successful endeavors, and as a dramatic example of the space agency's new style of "faster, better, cheaper" planetary exploration. The primary focus of this mission was to study Martian rocks.

The Climate Orbiter

Launched on December 11, 1998 this mission has been a thorn in the back of NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab. The orbiter never reached the surface of Mars, burning up in the planet's outer atmosphere. The loss of the spacecraft was traced backed to a failed conversion of American units (miles) into metric units (kilometers) in the calculation of the craft's angle of entry into the Martian atmosphere.

Arts & Entertainment

Movies

Darcy's Top 5
Boiler Room
Oscar Nominations

Top five movies of the year

By Darcy Lewis '02
A&E WRITER

5. The Red Violin

A mesmerizing, fantastic look at the power of music, this story is simply amazing. It sucks you in and holds you until the very last frame. This film has a huge scope, and spans generations. The *Red Violin* received little attention in the theaters, which is a true shame. The story revolves around a special violin which plays some of the most beautiful music ever composed (the score is nominated for an Oscar) and the influence it has on different peoples' lives. Samuel L. Jackson is the biggest name in a cast of low-key actors, but the acting in this movie perfectly suits the spirit of the film. This sumptuous movie breathes with life.

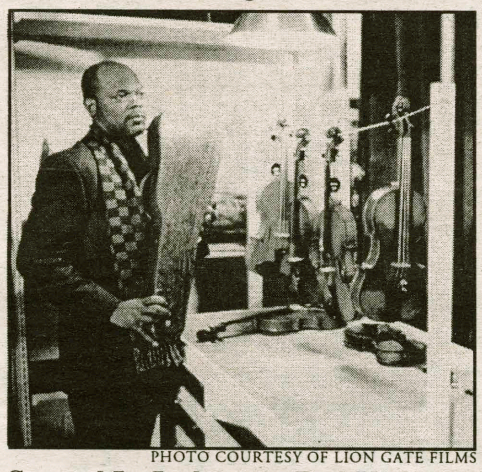


PHOTO COURTESY OF LION GATE FILMS
Samuel L. Jackson in Red Violin.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLYWOOD PICTURES
Willis and Osment in Sixth Sense.

4. Sixth Sense

The Sixth Sense is a tense thriller with solid acting from Bruce Willis, Haley Joel Osment, and Toni Colette. This film separates itself from the other films of the year because its goal was twofold. Not only did it manage to thoroughly scare any audience, the script and direction were geared around the dependency of the characters on each other and how they survived because of their interaction. Sixth Sense is smart and rises above the typical "horror" genre film because of that intelligence. The surprise ending is one of the best I've ever witnessed, and I hope more movies come along with both the complexity and the scare of this one.

3. Magnolia

Magnolia rains frogs. Need I say more? This film comes from the mind of *Boogie Nights* writer/director Paul Thomas Anderson, and has the same complex plot and huge cast of characters. The movie is so ingenious as it manages to connect every character to each other by the closing credits, even though many of them are seemingly complete strangers. The film, like *Run Lola Run*, communicates the power of fate and chance on everyone's life. *Magnolia* has a great cast, including Julianne Moore, William H. Macy, Philip Seymor Hoffmann (another personal favorite) and Tom Cruise, among others. The length of the movie is a bit daunting, but it runs along at such a smooth pace, you hardly know how much time has passed.

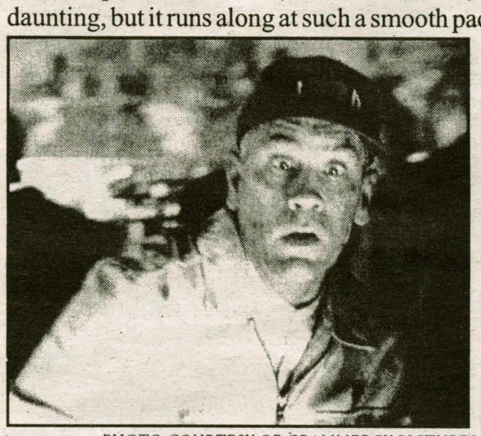


PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAMMERCY PICTURES
Malkovich as Malkovich in Being John Malkovich.

2. Being John Malkovich

Once you have seen this movie, you will never be the same. *Being John Malkovich* takes every one of the audience's preconceived notions about film and totally flips it upside down. Spike Jonze (who acted in Three Kings), a self-proclaimed nutcase, directs this stellar cast including John Cusack, Cameron Diaz, Catherine Keener, and John Malkovich himself. These characters take a brilliant, zany script to ingenious heights of comedy and tragedy. The film plays like a fantasy or a dream, and I didn't want this incredible story to come to a close. Aside from a very odd ending that did not really fulfill me, this movie deserves a place in movie history. For what, I do not quite know.

1. American Beauty

Every aspect of this film was phenomenal, from the acting (Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening, Wes Bentley, Mena Suvari, among others) to the direction and cinematography. I am particularly biased to this movie as Spacey is my favorite actor, but I'm quite sure I am not the only one who would choose this movie among their top ten. This movie appeals to both the younger and older generations, and challenges our perceptions of life. *American Beauty* deserves every nomination and award it receives. There are so many themes running through the story that something new will catch your eye each time you watch it.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES
Oscar Nominees Spacey and Benning in Beauty.

Movie Review

Boiler Room

By Matt Olney '01
A&E EDITOR

You have to respect anyone who is able to write and direct a movie by the age of 26 years, especially one dealing with such an intellectual topic as the stock-market. Ben Younger has a talent and it shows in *Boiler Room*, starring Giovanni Ribisi, Ben Affleck, Vin Diesel, and Nia Long.

Seth Davis (Giovanni Ribisi) is a young college drop-out running an illegal casino out of his one room apartment. A visit from an old friend (Nicky Katt) brings Seth to the offices of J.T. Marlin, a broker firm made up of 26 year old millionaires driving Ferrari's and Lamborgini's. Seth learns the trade quickly and becomes a member of the firm. Soon after he finds himself wearing expensive suits, hanging out with fellow brokers Chris (Vin Diesel), Richie (Scott Cann) and Jim (Ben Affleck), behaving as they do. This all changes when Seth learns that J.T. Marlin is not as legitimate as he once thought. It is a firm that sells dead-end stocks to clients who didn't want them in the first place. Moreover, Seth is the target of the FBI who want him to expose the firm.

It is obvious that Younger grew up watching Oliver Stone's *Wall Street* and David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*, and he was not afraid to show this. After work the boys of J.T. Marlin sit in their million dollar homes and imitate the famous Gordon Gekko from *Wall Street*. Vin Diesel, though an up-and-coming actor with many talents, is no Gordon Gekko.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA
Diesel doing his Gordon Gekko.

He imitates Gekko on the phone and in front of the television, but Oscar winning performances cannot be duplicated. In the firm, Seth is told by Jim to "A. B. C. Always Be Closing," straight out of Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*. However, Younger needs to learn that Mamet's command of language and dialogue cannot be replicated. There is a rhythmic pattern in Alec Baldwin's speech in *Glengarry* that Affleck's speech does not have. Affleck even sports his fancy car keys like Baldwin, but Affleck does not make his character as believeable as Baldwin's.

Another problem I had with this film is the relationship between Seth and his father. Though the relationship is told gradually and with the help of Seth's love interest Abbie (Nial Long), it is weak. The climactic moment in the film comes when Seth makes one last ditch effort to gain his father's respect and love, only to be rejected as he has been all his life. It was the poor acting of Ribisi and the weak dialogue that hindered, rather than helped this emotional moment of the film.

Despite these flaws, *Boiler Room* is entertaining and well directed. It is no *Wall Street* or *Glengarry Glen Ross*, but it has its own positive qualities, like good young acting from Vin Diesel and Nia Long, a unique hip-hop musical score, and an interesting story line. Ben Younger has a lot to learn, but he is learning from the best (Mamet, especially).

Oscar Nominations

BEST PICTURE

AMERICAN BEAUTY
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES
THE GREEN MILE
THE INSIDER
THE SIXTH SENSE

ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE

Russell Crowe (THE INSIDER)
Richard Farnsworth (STRAIGHT STORY)
Sean Penn (THE SWEET LOWDOWN)
Kevin Spacey (AMERICAN BEAUTY)
Denzel Washington (THE HURRICANE)

ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

Michael Caine (CIDER HOUSE RULES)
Tom Cruise (MAGNOLIA)
Michael Clarke Duncan (GREEN MILE)
Jude Law (THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY)
Haley Joel Osment (THE SIXTH SENSE)

ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE

Annette Bening (AMERICAN BEAUTY)
Janet McTeer (TUMBLEWEED)
Julianne Moore (END OF THE AFFAIR)
Meryl Streep (MUSIC OF THE HEART)
Hilary Swank (BOYS DON'T CRY)

ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE

Toni Collette (THE SIXTH SENSE)
Angelina Jolie (GIRL INTERRUPTED)
Catherine Keener (BEING JOHN MALKOVICH)
Samantha Morton (THE SWEET LOWDOWN)
Chloë Sevigny (BOYS DON'T CRY)

CINEMATOGRAPHY

AMERICAN BEAUTY
THE END OF THE AFFAIR
THE INSIDER
SLEEPY HOLLOW
SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS

DIRECTING

AMERICAN BEAUTY
BEING JOHN MALKOVICH
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES
THE INSIDER
THE SIXTH SENSE

FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER
CARAVAN
EAST-WEST
SOLOMON AND GAENOR
UNDER THE SUN

SCREENPLAY - ADAPTATION

THE CIDER HOUSE RULES
ELECTION
THE GREEN MILE
THE INSIDER
THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY

SCREENPLAY - ORIGINAL

AMERICAN BEAUTY
BEING JOHN MALKOVICH
MAGNOLIA
THE SIXTH SENSE
TOPSY-TURVY

Music review

Songs Ohia
The Lioness

By Dean Scherza '02
A&E WRITER

PHOTO COURTESY OF SECRETLY CANADIAN RECORDS

Songs Ohia's "The Lioness" highlights the new music scene at WHCL

Jason Molina grew up in the mid-west and attended Oberlin. There he played in a few different bands before choosing Songs:Ohia as the moniker for his recordings. If you like folk, you're going to like it. If you like rock, you're going to like it. This is good music! Hell, your parents will probably even like this. Molina's voice often reminds one of how Don McLean would have sounded like if he had stayed up late too many nights drinking coffee, smoking cigarettes and studying for mid-term exams.

To record his latest album, "The Lioness", Molina and friends headed off to Glasgow, Scotland, and were backed by the band Arab Strap. The backing, as it turns out, pays off quite a bit, resulting in Songs:Ohia's most full sounding album to date. It is also an album that has the potential of taking this band beyond the underground scene.

"There ain't nothing beyond hope", sings Jason Molina in the first line of "Back on Top." "I've been thrashed by the hope of your body/I've been thrashed by the hope of your eyes." Like many of the songs, it begins with an unaccompanied guitar and softly delivered voice, before reaching the emotional revelation that there is nothing beyond truth. The song "Nervous Bride" delivers something of a different sort. In it, the band loosely maneuvers it's way through an intensely delivered composition. Molina reflects on a marriage that didn't quite make it through the ceremony, singing "you flash that fire flag you fly above/the bright hot sails of your eyes/they say vaguely goodbye." However, his voice has a different tone, one of relief and freedom. Surprisingly, a good portion of the songs on this album continue this trend of ballads that somehow give you hope, but then again, that is what makes this album so unique. You swear up and down that you've heard Songs:Ohia before, but you know deep down that you really never have. "The Lioness" may or may not be your thing, but chances are you've been there before.

Junior Varsity
BAM! BAM! BAM!

By Greg Geist '01
A&E WRITER

If Junior Varsity were around forty or fifty years ago they would be musical icons and trendsetters. Your parents would tell you about the time they saw JV in concert in their high school cafeteria. Those were the days. But Junior Varsity is around today and they are rallying the kiddies to sounds you would expect to hear on the oldies station.

The three-member band keeps it simple with female vocals, drums, Chuck Berry-style guitar, and bass. Can JV still be labeled trendsetters?

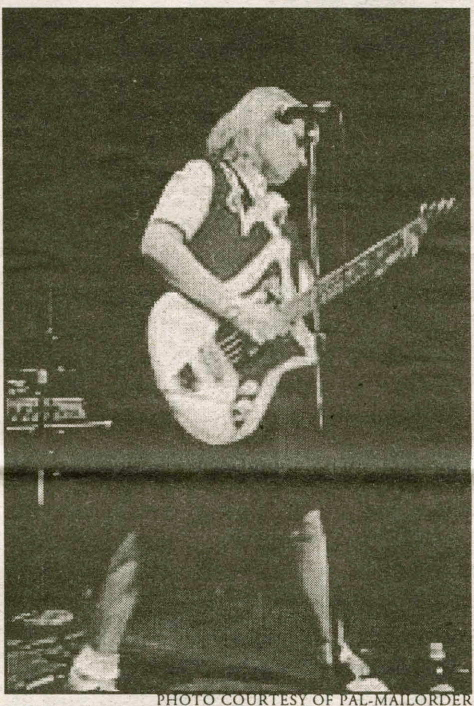


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAL-MAILORDER

Milkshakes, Poodle skirts, guitars, and Junior Varsity.

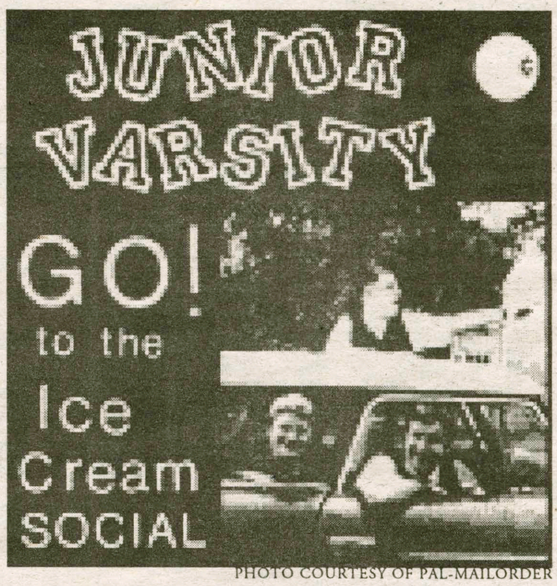


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAL-MAILORDER

Maybe not, but they sure are catchy. Junior Varsity's debut album "Bam Bam Bam!" on Austin, Texas' Peek-A-Boo Records is a fourteen song, twenty-minute musical time machine.

The songs are about holding hands in high school ("Bam Bam Bam"), sippin' a milkshake and eating a burger ("Poppa Burger"), pep rallies ("Pop Socks"), and of course, dancin' ("Mark Lochridge Twist"). Apparently, Junior Varsity is even more fun in concert.

They treat each show like a pep rally. Junior Varsity wear cheerleading outfits and their mascot, Blippy the Bear, is a crowd favorite. 1950s influenced tunes, a bear mascot, and clothes straight out of "Grease"? A-oo-badda-doo-wop, please daddy-o, Junior Varsity is oh-so-hip. Guys hop on your Schwinn and girls hop on your Huffy and head over to www.pal-mailorder.com to pick up a copy of "Bam Bam Bam".

What's Goin' On

The Best of what's happening on and off campus

Hamilton Classic Film Society Presents

The Apartment
Starring Jack Lemon and Shirley McClaine
Directed by Billy Wilder
Friday, February 25 10:00 PM KJ Aud
Saturday, February 26 6:00 PM KJ Aud

Samuel Kirkland film Society Presents

The Best Man
Starring Chris O'Donnell
Friday, February 25 7:30 PM KJ Aud
Saturday, February 26 10:00 PM KJ Aud
Sunday, February 27 7:30 PM KJ Aud

Little Pub Presents

Jomama and the Funkdaddy's
Friday, February 25 10:00 PM

Manfredi and Moss
Wednesday, March 1 9:00 PM

Munson Williams-Proctor Institute

The Mozart Brothers
Directed by Suzanne Osten
Wednesday, March 1 7:30 PM Museum of Art Auditorium

The Magic Flute
Richard McKee, artistic director for the Syracuse Opera, will preview The Magic Flute this Sunday, February 27 at 2:30 PM in the Munson Williams Proctor Institute Museum of Art Auditorium

Kirkland Art Center Presents

East Meets West with The California Duo
Saturday, February 26 8:00 PM $10
for more information, call 853-8871

The Performing Arts at Hamilton Presents

Basso Bongo
Friday, February 25 8:00 PM Wellin Hall
Tickets are $5 for students, $15 for adults

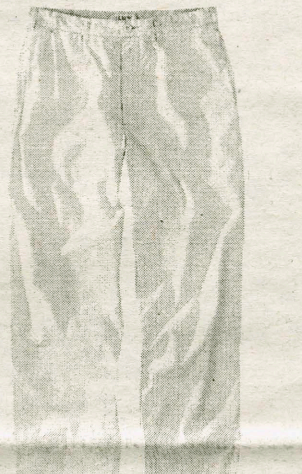
Glenwood Movieplex Oneida Showtimes

Reindeer Games (R)
12:20 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30
Snow Day (PG)
12:40 2:40 4:45 6:45 8:50
Stuart Little (PG)
12:15 2:15 4:15 6:15
Whole Nine Yards (R)
12:35 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:45
Tigger Movie (G)
12:30 2:30 4:30 6:30 8:30
The Green Mile (R)
8:00
Hanging Up (PG-13)
12:10 2:25 4:40 7:00 9:20
Pitch Black (R)
1:00 3:10 5:20 7:40 10:00
Scream 3 (R)
12:00 2:20 4:50 7:20 9:50
The Beach (R)
1:50 4:20 7:10 9:40

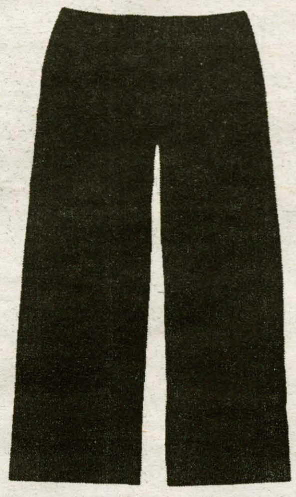
Fashion

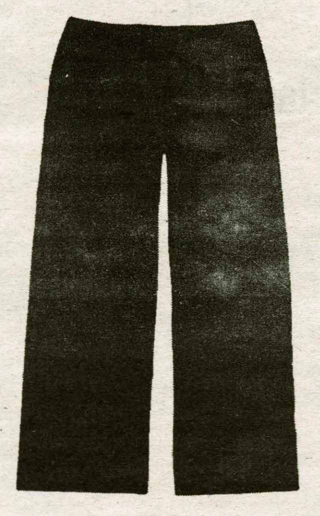
The return of Pants as if they ever left.

By Dan Reitman '01
Fashion Editor



Sashaying down Martin's Way this past morn, appreciating the melted snow brought to us by the good people at High Temperature Inc., I came upon a staggering revelation of the couture kind...pants are back! And they're packing more style and substance than Nicholas, Perot, and Strauss (note to ed. alternate joke: sangertown and zebbs)! I first noticed this bizarre pantaloonical turnaround during the end leg of my Christmas break, back in my native Montreal. Needing to leave the comfort of my home to get some eggs (we needed 12, and milk as well, but that is for another column) at the local super marche (that's supermarket), I threw on a shirt, a baseball cap, some wool socks and Birkenstocks, and grabbed my favorite walking stick. Sensing a cool draft as I opened the door, I nabbed my balaclava as well. Needless to say, the jaunt to the local food mart was not as peaceful an outing as I'd hoped for. I was the target of snickering, stares of disgust, and at least one intriguing proposition. "But why?" I asked. At first I was at once unsuspecting and genuinely dumbfounded by the negative fanfare my exposed flesh was garnering. Here was a man, ballsy (dumb?) enough to show his true [pasty] colors. But the real shocker came when I tried to enter Steinberg's, our local grocery store. I waltzed in, giving Salvatore, the cashier whom I'd known since I was a wee bambino, a respectful nod. I saw his pants, but I looked past them and saw a guy just trying to make a living. So I moved on. Only he didn't. Expletives racing from his mustached mouth, he kicked me out of the store, yelling something about leg hair on the watermelons and a possible visit from the health inspectors. I didn't take the time to decipher his hollering. But looking around, it became obvious what was separating me from my better-accessorized brethren: pants. Make no mistake, I was neither offended nor intimidated by being the "odd-ball" (although I do admit I prefer the term "revolutionary"). But a more pressing concern for me was, simply, why? Why pants, all of a sudden? After all these years of living free in the south, do we feel the need to shackle our legs with needless denim, polyester, wool, and yes, even vinyl? Let me say this: if you are reading this article, hoping for a flowery explanation as to why we're adopting this ridiculous trend, stop reading. I simply can't offer an easy explanation...yet. I'm only speculating on what I believe to be the fork in our road to pants-less harmony. I can see where people might have fallen off the wagon: pants are fun. They can be warm, even forgiving. But sometimes they fight back: remember that time you went to that party, and someone poured beer all over your pants? It was a downer wasn't it? Well, I wonder how different that night might have been if you weren't wearing any thigh hugging, knee hiding, beer attracting michnassayim (Hebrew for pants)? Whatever the motivation for the embrace of this positively retro fashion item, (I mean, let's face it, NIXON wore pants!) they seem to be here to stay. In fact, just this afternoon, I counted at least five people shamelessly parading around campus, showing off the latest wares from the houses of Gap, Dickies and Carhart. No fooling, they are darn convenient for storing wallets and keys. They even have holes on the waist if you want to show off your latest belt (although I prefer twine). But is this marginal utility worth the simple fact that we look damned ridiculous in these thigh-blankets? This article is not many things. It isn't friendly, nor is it water-soluble. In fact, it is barely in accordance with FCC regulations. But this IS a call out to all you dynamic, pro-active students on this campus to rid yourselves of your fabric south of the border. Let us rejoice and sing the swan song of the fabric coming between the air and our beautiful, hairy legs.

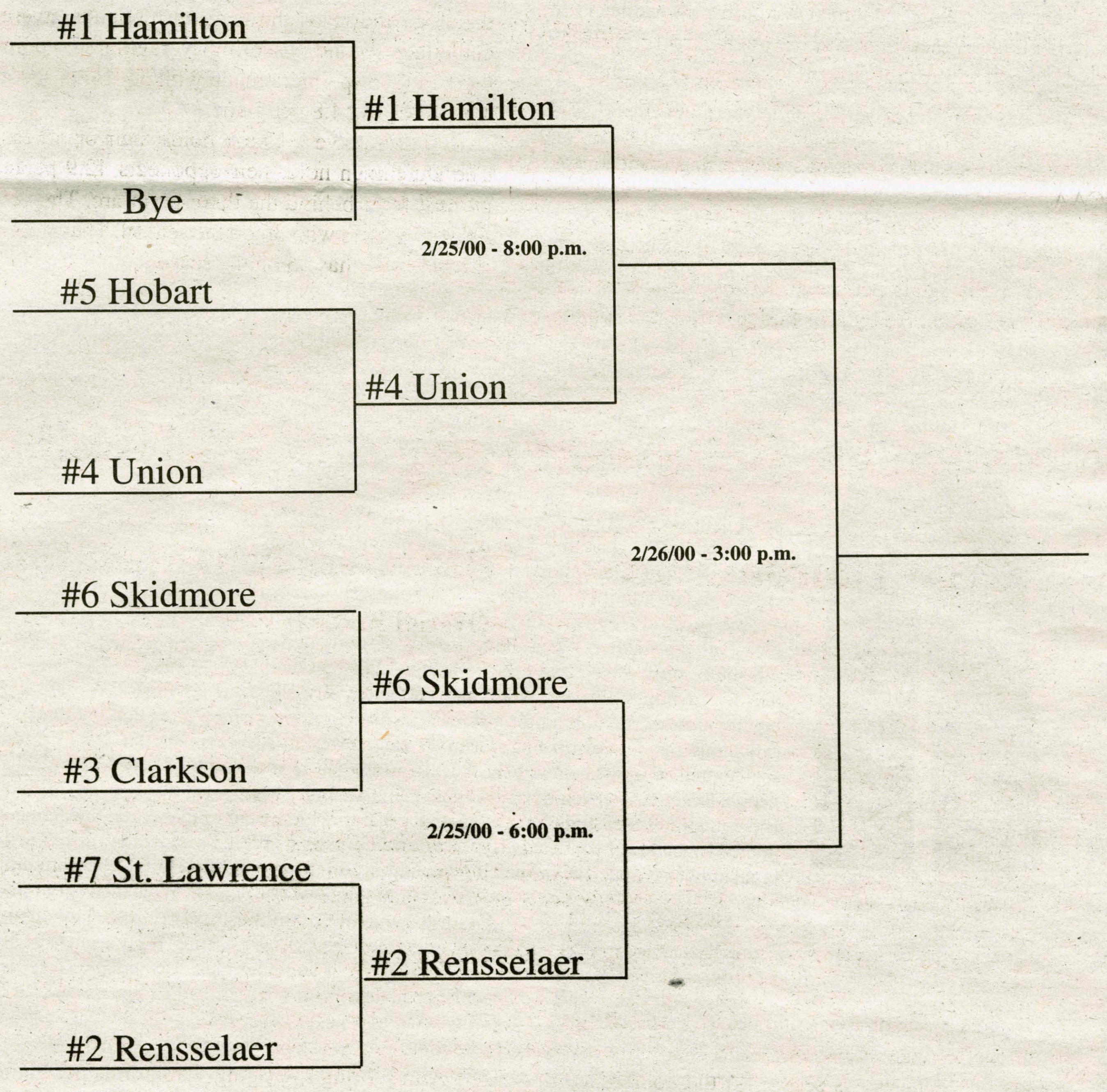




UCAA Special

This weekend Hamilton is host to the inaugural UCAA Tournament. This special section previews all the players and teams in order to prepare you for this weekend's action.

2000 UCAA Tournament Bracket



Preview of Tonight's Match-ups

Hamilton vs. Union, 8pm Scott Fieldhouse

Hamilton College Continentals

Overall Record: 16-7
UCAA Record: 12-0, 1st Place
Key Players:
- #42 Brendan Ferretti
- #10 Jimmy Driggs
- #22 Jimmy McCarthy
- #40 Kris Fudge

Team notes:

Hamilton comes into the weekend as the tournament's top seed. This season the Continentals completed the first undefeated regular season in UCAA history with a 12-0 record. It's the third time they have won the regular season title and their second in a row. The Continentals have a 16-7 overall record and were tied for third with SUNY Brockport in the latest NCAA Division III East Region poll.

Offensively Hamilton averages 80.5 points per game, tops in the UCAA. They shoot 44.0 percent from the floor and 35.1 percent from three-point land. The Continentals feature three players scoring in double figures led by Brendan Ferretti. He averages 12.8 points per game, shooting 41.2 percent from the floor. Kris Fudge is second in scoring averaging 12.5 points per game. He also leads the team and is eighth in rebounding, averaging 7.0 per contest. Jim McCarthy is third in scoring, averaging 12.3 points per game. He leads the Continentals in three-point baskets made with 68. Junior point guard Jimmy Driggs averages 6.9 assists per game, which is second in the UCAA and 10th in NCAA.

Defensively the Continentals allow 76.7 points per game. Their opponents shoot 44.1 percent from the floor and 36.8 percent from three-point land. The Continentals average 7.1 steals per game, led by Mike Harrison with 29. They block 4.7 shots per game, led by Kris Fudge who has 35 on the year.

Union College Dutchmen

Overall Record: 15-10
UCAA Record: 5-7, 4th Place
Key Players:
- #32 C.J. Rodgers
- #34 Aaron Galletta
- #15 Zena Woldeyesus

Team notes:

Union College is the fourth seed in this year's tournament, finishing fourth in the UCAA standings with a 5-7 record. Overall the Dutchmen are 15-10 after an 82-81 victory over Hobart College. C.J. Rodgers led the way with 25 points and 14 rebounds, including 10 offensive rebounds. Aaron Galletta added 20 points and six rebounds.

Offensively Union averages 75.1 points per game, third in the conference. The Dutchmen are shooting 45.2 percent from the field and 37.4 percent from three-point land. C.J. Rodgers leads the Dutchmen in scoring, averaging 16.1 points per game. He is hitting 52.5 percent of his shots from the floor and leads the team in rebounds, averaging 8.6 per game. Aaron Galletta is second in scoring averaging 15.6 points per contest. He leads the team in three-pointers made with 55. He is second on the team in rebounding, averaging 4.8 per game.

Defensively Union holds their opponents to 69.2 points per game. The Dutchmen hold their opponents 42.9 percent from the field and 34.6 percent from behind the three-point arc. They average 7.4 steals per game, led by Rodgers with 36 on the season. They block 4.1 shots per game, led by Rodgers who has 23 on the season.

Skidmore vs. Rensselaer, 6pm Scott Fieldhouse

Skidmore College Thoroughbreds

Overall Record: 12-13
UCAA Record: 4-8, 6th Place
Key Players:
- #4 Mark Mortensen
- #25 Dennis Wilcox
- #24 Brian Culkin

Team notes:

After a thrilling 49-47 win at Clarkson on Tuesday Skidmore comes in as the lowest seed of the remaining teams to advance to the semifinal round. The #6 Thoroughbreds are 12-13 overall and were sixth in the UCAA standings with a 4-8 record.

Skidmore come into the tournament averaging 63.4 points per game. They shoot 40.9 percent from the floor and 33 percent from behind the three-point line. Brian Culkin leads the team and is second in the conference in scoring, averaging 22.1 points per game. He also leads the squad in assists, dishing out 2.0 per game. Mark Mortensen is second in scoring averaging 7.9 points per contest. Earlier in the season he tallied a season-best 21 points against Hamilton. He leads the team in rebounding averaging 5.8 caroms per game. Bob Johnson is second on the team in rebounding, averaging 5.1 per game.

Defensively the Thoroughbreds allow 64.0 points per game. They hold their opponents to 38.6 percent shooting from the floor and 34.3 percent shooting from three-point land. They average 6.6 steals per game, led by Culkin who has 51 on the year.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Engineers

Overall Record: 16-9
UCAA Record: 7-5, 2nd Place
Key Players:
- #22 Jaime Sangouthai
- #24 Darryl Gentry
- #44 Alex Dowlin
- #32 Adam Laware

Team notes:

Rensselaer comes into the tournament as the #2 seed, finishing the regular season with a 7-5 league record. The Engineers are 16-9 overall after a 78-65 win over St. Lawrence on Tuesday night.

Rensselaer averages 69.3 points per game, shooting 48.1 percent from the floor. They shoot 34.8 percent from three-point land and 64.3 percent from the charity stripe. Senior Alex Dowlin leads the team and is fourth in the UCAA in scoring averaging 17.6 points per game. He is also second on the team in rebounding, grabbing 7.3 per contest. Adam Laware is second on the team in scoring, averaging 13.8 points per contest. He has 25 three-point baskets on the season and is hitting 67.6 percent (25-37) from behind the three-point line. Laware leads the team and is second in the conference in rebounding, grabbing 9.6 caroms per game.

Defensively Rensselaer allows 65.5 points per game. Their opponents shoot 41.1 percent from the floor and 36.3 percent from three-point land. They average 7.2 steals per game led by Alex Dowlin and Bobby Hurley who each have 38 on the year.

Men's Hockey Prepares for Tourney

By J.P. LeBlanc '01
SPORTS WRITER

Over the weekend, the men's hockey team defeated Connecticut College 7-2 and tied Wesleyan at three apiece. Hamilton had to face two hungry teams that were fighting for the last spot in the upcoming post-season tournament.

According to head coach Phil Grady, Wesleyan "played very hard, and they needed that game." Wesleyan received great goaltending from netminder Eric Carmody, who made 47 saves. Scoring for Hamilton were Mike Phalen '00, Mike Engert '03, and Craig Leger '02.

Hamilton redeemed themselves on Saturday by pounding Conn Coll, 7-2. Grady's plan was to "go right at [Conn College]." The Conts did just that. They outshot the Camels 41 to 16. Hamilton used a balanced offensive attack to create numerous scoring opportunities. Fourteen different Continentals registered a point in the contest, with wing Tim Canfield '02 leading the way with two goals and an assist.

This Saturday the team travels to Bowdoin for the first round of the NESCAC tournament. The Continentals first game is a highly anticipated rematch against the Polar Bears. Bowdoin defeated the Continentals by a score of 3-2 on November 20. Hamilton outplayed Bowdoin for most of the contest, but Bowdoin was able to find a way to win.

Hamilton enters the weekend as the sixth seed, with Bowdoin holding the third seed. In the NESCAC tournament, the seeding can be misleading as only three wins separate Hamilton from Middlebury, the first seed. Grady isn't concerned with who his team faces. Hamilton has defeated two of their NESCAC opponents, and lost to the other three by a total of three goals. Grady sums it up best, commenting that the champion will be the team "who plays best." This is contrary to years past, in which Middlebury could dominate a contest with a lackluster performance.

In order to defeat Bowdoin, Grady says the team "can't let Bowdoin skate." In order to do so, Hamilton must play aggressively and "force turnovers in the opposing zone." This will neutralize Bowdoin's quickness and enable the Conts to focus on their strength, hard work, and forechecking.

The playoffs are arriving at a great time for Hamilton. The team is playing quality hockey and getting solid goaltending from Brent Davey '00 and Dave Scamurra '03. Grady will be hard pressed to make a decision on who will start between the pipes on Saturday afternoon. Scamurra has only lost once in his last seven starts, while Davey is a former ECAC playoff MVP.

Grady says he will most likely make his decision Friday after practice, though he says he might as well "flip a coin." Both Scamurra and Davey are capable of dominant performances. Also in contention for the starting position is netminder Scott Grenier '00, who would start at almost any other school.

The first-year varsity players must follow the example of this year's senior class. This is their fourth straight playoff appearance, something that the Polar Bears are going to be hard-pressed to match. Co-captains Brian Grady '00 and Chris Baudo '00 are two of the hardest working players in the league. Surely they can provide the leadership that Coach Grady is asking for.

McSorley Suspended

NEW YORK (AP) - Marty McSorley will have lots of time to ponder what he did to Donald Brashear.

McSorley received the longest suspension for on-ice violence in NHL history Wednesday for his stick-swinging attack on Brashear. The Boston defenseman will not be allow to play in the Bruins' final 23 regular-season games or in the playoffs should the last-place team in the Northeast Division make it that far.

The penalty was handed down as a result of McSorley's two-handed slash to Brashear's right temple. Monday night in Boston's loss to the Vancouver Canucks. "We must continue to be vigilant when there are acts that cross the line," commissioner Gary Bettman said.

"In response to a clearly inappropriate act, the league acted firmly and decisively." McSorley's behavior, and seventh NHL suspension, will cost him $72,000 in salary. "We always try to make a statement in whatever we do because we don't want it to happen again," said executive vice president Colin Campbell, who handed out McSorley's punishment.

"We're trying to right a wrong." McSorley's hit on Brashear brought hockey into the national spotlight for all the wrong reasons in this the first year of the NHL's new television contract with ABC and ESPN.

"There isn't a sport that doesn't have incidents," Bettman said. "The true measure is if you have an incident, how you deal with it."

Brashear is trying to do that, and saying very little about the attack or suspension.

"I guess I shouldn't say anything yet," he told the Vancouver Sun.

His has had headaches since waking up Tuesday morning. "It's the same every day. It hurts when I talk on the phone."

He doesn't know when he'll play hockey again, and said he was awaiting further test results late Wednesday.

Bettman and Campbell both pointed to the fact that stick fouls and violence of this nature have declined.

"We made a real attempt last year, and we did lower it," Campbell said. "They have been down this year, blows to the head, stick infractions, and I don't think this represents what happened this year at all.

"Unfortunately, it will get the play that it is, and you see the gathering that is here, but we have had a fairly lean year. I think that it has been good."

McSorley, who apologized repeatedly for the hit that knocked out Brashear, did not attend a scheduled disciplinary hearing at NHL headquarters Wednesday on the advice of his lawyers.

Vancouver police, investigating the attack, plan to finish their work by next week. The findings will be sent to a prosecutor, who will decide on charges.

"We don't think further involvement by the authorities is necessary," said Bill Daly, the NHL's executive vice president and chief legal officer. "We think we dealt with the situation decisively, harshly, and we think that's probably sufficient."

Win or Lose, Season Still A Success

Mike Schantz? Gone to England to play basketball. Jon Schmiegel? Travels around the country and the world playing against the Globetrotters. Max Stroman? He's gone too-off to the business world. Five other seniors from last year's Sweet Sixteen team? Gone. Gone.

PETER RINGEL

The Ringel Angle

Gone. Gone. Gone. See what I'm getting at, yet?

Expectations were low. You lose eight seniors, including the Player of the Year. You lose your two best inside players and your emotional leaders. You have a returning team with only three players who have ever seen extensive playing time on the court. You have no seniors. No shot to do anything this season.

Before the men's basketball 1999-2000 season began, there was virtually no one around either the UCAA or the NESCAC that thought the Continentals would have a successful season. As the regular season wound down last weekend, it had become apparent to most that this year's team might have given last year's team a real battle. In fact, it is somewhat ironic that this young team could have beaten a team that went to two straight NCAA Sweet 16's is remarkable.

But against all the odds, the Continentals (with no seniors, not a whole lot of experience, and a lot of other factors against them) beat the odds. They persevered. They never gave up once. Down by double-digits to Williams for much of the second half, they were resilient, showing the never-say-die attitude that makes Head Coach Tom Murphy so proud, yet still came up short. But you learn from your mistakes. Most athletes tell you they learn more from the games they lose than from the games they win.

The team finished with virtually the same record as a year ago (16-7), but without all the expectations that faced last year's team. So is Murphy just a great coach? He will tell you that coaches simply coach, and it's the players that win games. The team can be separated into four groups of players: the old guard (Driggs, McCarthy, and Ferretti), the players who are playing their second year on varsity (Casey, Conti, Fudge, Hammond, and Harrison), the four players who moved up from the junior varsity squad (Boyd, Bjorkman, Mac Avery, and Stolarczyk), and the four freshmen (Finley, Hall, Vaughan, and Yanni).

The Old Guard: In their third year on the team, these three players have come into their own. Driggs is the floor leader; Ferretti and McCarthy are the shooters. When either of these two fail to score, the team struggles mightily. Ferretti is the vocal leader of this team. He is one of the only guys on the team who will get in a teammate's face and make sure they are focused. Conversely, McCarthy is soft-spoken, yet exudes confidence. He will not shy away from taking a big shot and has the ability to single-handedly keep the team in a game. Driggs is the quiet leader. When he speaks, people listen. He has been leading the point for three seasons and has quietly established himself as one of the most consistent point guards in both the NESCAC and the UCAA.

Quiet, but Deadly: Most of these guys are seeing their first significant action in their second season on the varsity team. A mix of defensive specialists, finesse offensive performers, and gritty players are what makes these guys so hard to stop. Fudge may be the most important player on the team. He has the ability to take over games from both the inside or outside. He is the best rebounder on the team and continues to take advantage of bigger, slower opposing players. Casey has established himself as a scorer, passer, and slasher. He can drive to the hoop and score while helping the Continentals maintain their system of using two capable point guards, as they did with Lamar Johnson and Driggs the last two seasons.

Conti is one of the toughest competitors I've ever seen. He has been hobbled with injuries all season that most players would not even attempt to play with. A gritty warrior, he has established himself as a legitimate scoring threat and a tenacious defender. Hammond started the first five games last season when Schmiegel was out and from that moment on has proven his value to this team. He has a number of moves under the basket that enable him to keep opponents guessing. His offensive prowess is needed on the inside, because this team often focuses on outside shooting.

And, finally there's Harrison. A kid, who is maybe 6'3, yet gets rebounds over opponents who are three or four inches bigger than him. He hustles and wants the ball more than his opponents. Arguably, the best defensive player on the team, Harrison accounts for the most steals on the Continentals.

The new guys: One of the most pleasant surprises this season has been the depth on this team. It is well known that a team may play Hamilton and face 13 or 14 different players.

JV no more: Murphy had to be impressed with the four players who made the jump from the junior varsity team to varsity this season. Boyd and Stolarczyk provided Murphy with two able-bodied big guys who can bang with other bigger, stronger opponents. Boyd shows signs that he may improve with more game experience, as he often is the best big man during practice. Stolarczyk gives the Continentals a physical, bruising center who can rebound aggressively.

Mac Avery, when given the chance, showed he can be a rebounding force, while also possessing a consistent, mid-range jump shot. And perhaps the biggest surprise from this group has been Bjorkman. He played nearly the entire second-half against Trinity and ever since has seen more time. He provides the team with an athletic, steady outside shooter, and his 6'6 frame can help the Continentals in the rebounding department.

New Faces: Four freshmen is the most in the last three years on the varsity team. Vaughan might be the most complete of the freshmen, but has yet to see considerable action. He can rebound, shoot, and is one of the most skilled players on the team.

Hall was injured during the pre-season and did not start playing in games until late January. He has a tremendous leaping ability and great natural ability and has helped the team in spurts this year. Yanni is a pure shooter, who when left open has burned opponents from three-point range this season. He is a good rebounder and more physical than some of the other guards on the team.

Finally, Finley has become a stalwart at the center position. He has had nagging injuries all season, but has played through them. He is the closest the team has to a "true" center and has become a force around the basket.

Outlook: As the team heads into this weekend's UCAA Tournament, the Continentals should be cautiously optimistic about their chances to win. The team was the first to go through the UCAA League undefeated (12-0).

The Continentals, should they win the Tournament, will get an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. But even if the team is not successful this weekend, the season should still be considered a success.

Murphy guided a young team to an 8-0 start and the same number of wins in the NESCAC as last year's team. However, the 1999-2000 team was in a better position to win at least three of those games than last season's veteran team.

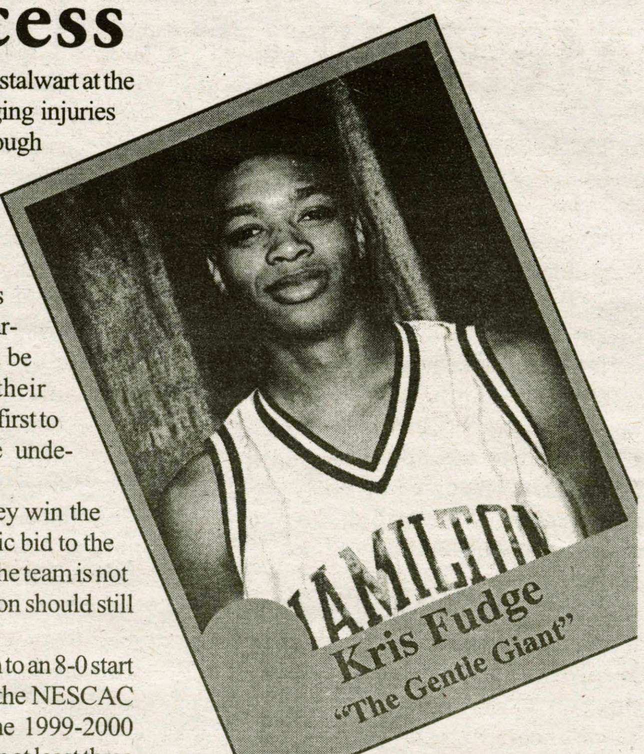
Hamilton was not supposed to be dominant this year, predicted to finish toward the bottom of the UCAA, and now stands poised to win the UCAA Tournament.

What Murphy said:

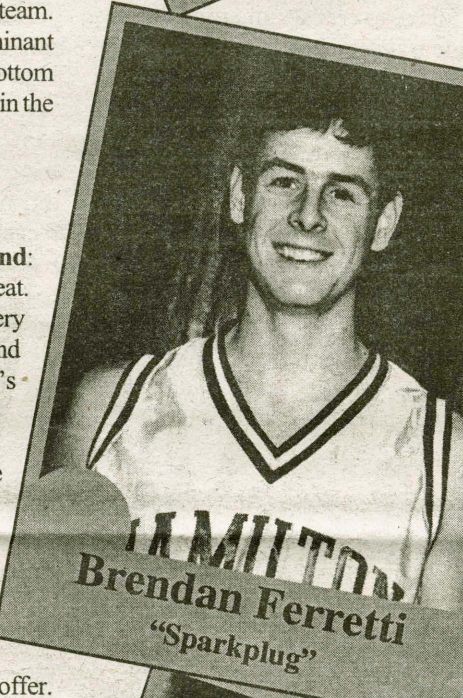
On the UCAA Tournament this weekend: We're the team that everyone wants to beat. We're the target and we have to beat two very good basketball teams for a third time, and that's not easy. I think we can do it, but that's why you play the games.

On the team losing four of its last five games: Every team has its peaks and valleys. And when things aren't going well there are two things you can do: you can quit or you can try again. We aren't going to quit. We will put a team out there that all Hamilton will be proud of and represents the best this school has to offer.

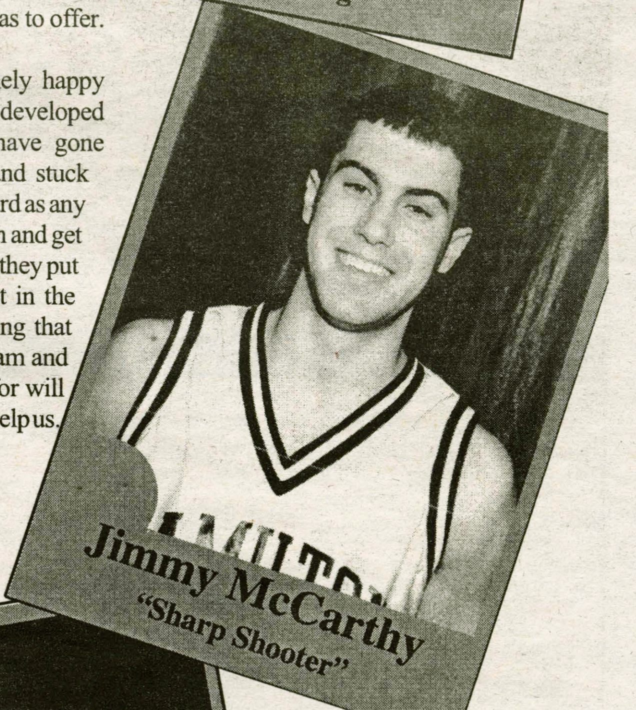
On this year's team: I'm extremely happy with what they accomplished. They developed confidence in themselves. They have gone through ups and downs together and stuck together. This team has worked as hard as any team we've had here. I hope they win and get an NCAA bid with all the hard work they put in. If it doesn't happen and we get in the ECAC's, we'll work hard at winning that tournament. We're a very young team and whichever tournament we qualify for will provide us with experience that will help us.



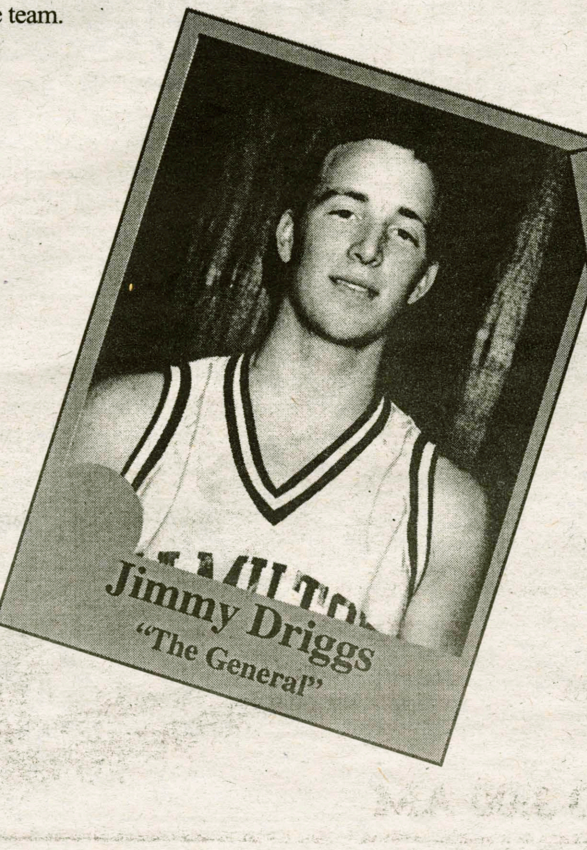
Kris Fudge
"The Gentle Giant"



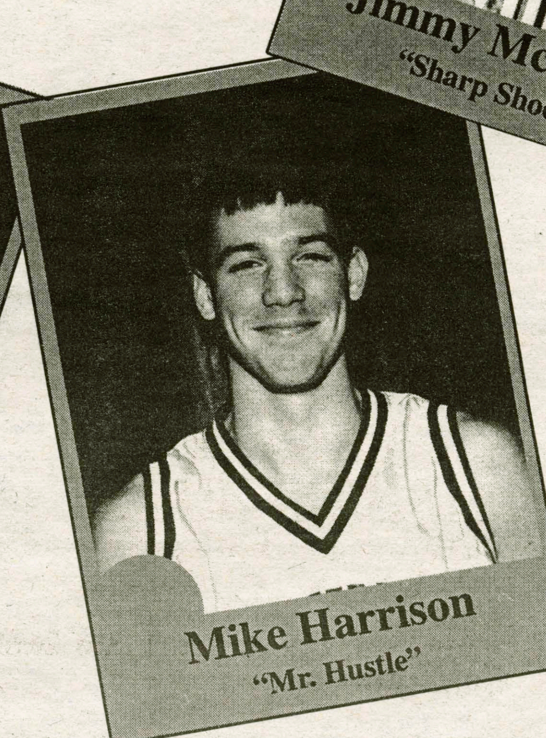
Brendan Ferretti
"Sparkplug"



Jimmy McCarthy
"Sharp Shooter"



Jimmy Driggs
"The General"



Mike Harrison
"Mr. Hustle"

Track and Field Hosts Hamilton Open

By Michael Everhart '02
SPORTS WRITER

The men's and women's indoor track and field teams had a successful day at the Hamilton College Open last week. Although there was no official team scoring, many people were able to qualify for ECAC and national tournaments.

Peggy Malloy '01 commented, "The open meet was fun, but it wasn't as exciting because there weren't any rabid dogs to beat." Other members added to Malloy's sentiments, commenting that it was a fun meet and a good confidence booster for the team.

For the women, the relays were the highlight of the meet. The distance medley relay team, made up of Maggie Hanson '02, Christina Freyre '02, Amanda Chase '03, and Jen Cammarano '03, qualified for the NCAA Championships with a time of 12:33.8. The 4x200m relay team also qualified for the ECAC Championships with a winning time of 1:52.37. The men's relay teams finished first in the 4x800, 4x400 and the 4x200m relay.

The teams were also successful in the field events. Sherri Hamlette '01 and Jeff Needham '00 each won the 20 and 35-lb. weight throw. In the shot put, Courtney Robbins '03 finished second with the distance of 9.91m. In the long jump, Julie Elmuccio '03, Kate Clark '02, and Kelly Aitken '02 finished first, third, and fourth respectively. Elmuccio, Emily Scursso '02, and Aitken took the first three places in the triple jump. In the high jump, Clark finished first and qualified her for ECAC's with a height of 1.55m.

Lesley Vars '00 and Mac Weiss '02 both finished first in the 1500m run. Weiss commented, "I had an awesome open. I felt like I could run all day." Isabel Ezrati '03 and Sam Brown '01 each took first in the 1000m run. Chase finished second in the first 500m. In the sprint events, Roxanne Hoek '03, Kerryann Freeman '03, and Malloy finished first, fifth, and seventh in the 55m dash. In the 200m dash, Myrth and Freeman finished third and seventh with times of 29.34 seconds and 31.29 seconds.

Jeff Garte '01 commented, "The open meet was a good last chance for some people to up their seed times or qualify for states and for the rest of us it was just fun to go out and screw around."

Clark and Josh Cooper '01 also competed last weekend in the NYSCTC Pentathlon Championships. Clark commented, "Cooper and I did very well this weekend. We had some personal bests and kicked some butts. Coop came in sixth but he had the guys running scared in the beginning. I did pretty well...actually I won the entire meet. But I have this thing about being modest."

"So straight up I tied a personal best in the hurdles with a time of 9.35 [seconds]," Clark continued. "I jumped 4'10'5", threw a personal best in the shot put of 8.96m, and long jumped a personal best too. I jumped 4.60m, and then I ran the 800. Can I tell you how hard that was! That's about it. I can't really give you any great things to say. I just gave it my all! And my teammates cheered me on the whole way. I couldn't have done it without them. They are so supportive!"

Clark and Cooper's finishes gave their respective teams ten points and one point to start off the weekend. Garte commented, "I watched my best friend [Cooper] put out a pure guts performance in his five events today. Even though the numbers didn't fall his way he managed to pick up sixth place and score valuable points for the team. The competition at the pentathlon was intense."

Hamilton will be sending about 45 athletes to the NYSCTC Championships this weekend at SUNY Fredonia. As for the women's team, Vars commented, "I think that we have a strong chance of winning the state championship this year." The team is coming off a convincing win at the UCAA Championships two weeks ago, and looks to continue its success against the state's best competition. As for the men's team, Weiss commented, "For the team at states, every individual has to do something special for us to think of winning. People are psyched and ready to compete."

O'Bryan added, "I'm expecting Hamilton to have a huge impact at the state meet from the 800m to the 5k. We have a lot of heart. And the girls team - they have talent in every race and field event; that's what makes them a dominant team."

SCOREBOARD

Men's Hoops	16-7
Women's Hoops	6-18
Men's Hockey	14-7-3
Women's Hockey	6-12
Men's Swimming	6-2
Women's Swimming	8-2
Men's Squash	2-7
Women's Squash	10-5
Men's Track	10-4
Women's Track	12-3

Beat the Experts

Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly handsome **Sports Editors, Peter and David, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator*.**

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Peter Ringel** *Spectator Managing Editor* Last Week: 6-6 To date: 20-16	**David Zane** *Spectator Editor-in-Chief* Last Week: 3-9 To date: 16-20	**Julie Diehl** *Women's Hoops Athletics* Last Week: 7-5 To date: 23-13	**Chris Preston** *Associate Sports Editor* Last Week's Guest: Colleen Trzaskos 6-6
NBA				
Miami at Washington 2/26	Heat	Heat	Heat	Heat
Charlotte at New Jersey 2/26	Hornets	Hornets	Hornets	Hornets
Denver at Dallas 2/26	Mavericks	Nuggets	Mavericks	Nuggets
Phoenix at Toronto 2/27	Suns	Suns	Suns	Suns
Orlando at Milwaukee 2/27	Bucks	Bucks	Magic	Bucks
Philadelphia at New York 2/27	Knicks	Knicks	Knicks	Knicks
Houston at LA Lakers 2/27	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Chicago at Detroit 2/27	Pistons	Pistons	Bulls	Pistons
NCAA Basketball				
Georgetown at Syracuse 2/27	Orangemen	Orangemen	Orangemen	Orangemen
St. John's at Duke 2/26	Red Storm	Blue Devils	Blue Devils	Blue Devils
North Carolina at Maryland 2/26	Terps	Terps	Tar Heels	Terps
Virginia at Florida St. 2/26	Cavs	Cavs	Seminoles	Cavs

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

Take a gourmet chef like Tony Gurdo and put him together with America's favorite Italian foods and you have the delicious pizza to be discovered at ANTONIO'S HOMETOWN PIZZA AND SPECIALTIES. After fifteen years building and maintaining a well known Italian gourmet Trattoria, Tony has switched to hometown pizza. He offers regular or wheat dough on all pizza. You may choose from a variety of toppings for regular pizza or from a list of mouth watering combinations on gourmet pizzas. Enjoy garlic pizza, tomato pie, wings, a selection of salads, and on Friday, a fish fry all day and evening. There is beer on tap in the cozy restaurant area and wine and soda are available.

ANTONIO'S is open Tuesday, 4 PM to 10PM, Wednesday and Thursday 11AM to 10PM, Friday 11AM to 11PM, Saturday 4 PM to 11PM and Sunday 4 PM to 10 PM. Call ahead to 853-3556 to have your pizza waiting for pick-up or to be savored inside the cafe at the Clinton Shopping Center on Route 12B south of the center of the Village.

ANTONIO'S PIZZERIA

Rt. 12B, Clinton Shopping Center *(Just past McDonald's)*

853-3556

Women's Squash: National Champions

By Elizabeth Crispino '01
SPORTS WRITER

The women's squash team ended their season with a bang over the weekend, trouncing their opponents and winning the Howe Cup at Yale. The Howe Cup is the National Tournament for Division 1 squash programs.

In the first round, Hamilton faced Connecticut College, easily dispatching of them 8-1. In the second round on Saturday, the team was up against a tough, third ranked Tufts team. Despite tough games for Sayako Shibazaki '00 and Eileen Wildman '01 at numbers one and two, and Heather Balderson '00 and Sarah Taylor '03 at numbers eight and nine, the team pulled out with a close 5-4 victory.

Afterwards, the team regrouped for their final match on Sunday against St. Lawrence, whom they had split matches to in the regular season.

The team came out fired up and inspired by Coach Austin to win the division. Shibazaki, Wildman and Tracy Nichols '03 all found tough opponents at spots one through three, and succumbed to St. Lawrence.

But the Continentals would prove their worth by taking the number four, five, six, eight and nine spots in close matches, eventually earning the victory. Seniors Christa Sinclair, Azure Davey, and Emily Fitzgerald each went undefeated this weekend.

Sinclair highlighted the play of Sarah Quinlan '01 and Fitzgerald, commenting, "Quinlan and Fitzgerald clinched their matches against Tufts and St. Lawrence, coming from behind for big wins. They were an integral part of our win."

Davey also praised Taylor, describing her as a player with "great potential and a terrific attitude."

Davey commented, "Our wins were truly a team effort. Some matches were closer than others, and it seemed that each day a new person rose to face challenges. We hung in there down the line [when things got close] and really played well to win our division of the tournament. It was a very, very rewarding victory."

Sinclair commented, "It was great to be rewarded for such hard work throughout the season."

Coach Austin added, "This was an exciting end to a fabulous season. The team worked hard all season long and were rewarded in this win. The girls came out with the attitude that they would win, and they proved themselves this past weekend." Sinclair and Davey attributed much of the team's success to the coaching and support of Austin. "It is a pleasure to play for Bill," commented Davey.

****

The men would not have victory visit them this weekend, as they were defeated by Rochester 9-0. Due to the absence of Austin, Assistant Coach Chad accompanied the team to Rochester and was a source of moral support for the men.

The team was handicapped from the beginning, missing number two Phil Budihardjo '00 as he rested his hand for the upcoming nationals. Dave Beslow played well at the number four spot. Beslow was up two games to one before being worn down by a particularly gritty Rochester opponent. The two rookies, Samir Terko and Thomaz Kanopka, each took a game from their opponents.

Captain John Rhoads '00 commented, "Although we played well we let down our fans that made the trek to Rochester to cheer us on. The parents of Bill Pyles also graced us with their presence and played integral roles in leading the thunderous Continental cheers that echoed throughout the brand new squash arena at Rochester."

Ben Pastor saved the day as the call for him to play came only minutes before departure. He was raring to go however, and played with a lot of gusto.

Austin looks towards this weekend with optimism, "All in all we are just looking to break out this coming weekend at Yale. We can only go up from this point so hopefully if everything works out right we can bring home some hardware." The men travel to Yale this weekend to compete at Nationals.

Flutie Still Bitter

TORONTO (AP) - Doug Flutie is sure there would have been no Music City Miracle if he had started the Buffalo Bills' wild-card playoff game against the Tennessee Titans.

Flutie remains bitter about the circumstances surrounding his demotion in favor of Rob Johnson in the Jan. 8 game, and the quarterback let his feelings be known in an interview with a Canadian television network.

"I honestly believe that if I would have been playing, we could have, would have, won," Flutie said in an interview to be aired Saturday night on TSN.

"It probably was the most frustrating, most miserable week I've ever spent in football. It was hard to understand and difficult to deal with."

The Titans won 22-16 in the final seconds on a trick play on a kickoff return. Flutie said that in meetings with NFL players since the season ended, response has been "unanimous that I got shafted."

"I sort of shook my head and chuckled," Flutie said of his reaction when Bills coach Wade Phillips told him five days before the game that Johnson would be starting.

"I should have known better. I should have expected it. I've been through it before. Just when you start to feel comfortable and trust people in this league..."

As for the recent release of a trio of Bills stars - Bruce Smith, Thurman Thomas and Andre Reed - Flutie called it "a joke."

"I shake my head, I really do," Flutie said. "They were all necessary in the eyes of our management, but it's no longer about who the best player is for the job in termsof personnel. It's not about putting the best product on the field."

Despite the pain of being demoted at a crucial time, Flutie said he did want to ask for a trade.

"I was frustrated and angry and I thought about trying to force their hands, but it made no sense," he said. "I know the offense, I know the players. I'm 37. I don't feel like going anywhere else. I'll get my opportunity."

Gathers Remembered; NASCAR Forgotten

I'll say it at the top of my column this week, just so everyone who reads less than the full article hears it: go to the men's basketball game tonight.

It's the UCAA final four, and it's here on campus. The Dog Pound is guaranteed to be in full force tonight, and rumor has it that the shot clocks will be working again. No excuses for absenteeism. Our top-seeded team loves a big crowd and they deserve one tonight. Anyhow, as usual, here are some thoughts on happenings around the sporting world:

MATT GLASSMAN

Riding the Pine

Cinderella Story- The NCAA tournament field is beginning to take some shape, and there are two conferences that you may have overlooked, both of which I believe will raise some hay in March. Kent is on an absolute tear in the MAC (Mid-America Conference), and that's no small feat.

With four teams (Bowling Green, Akron, and Ball State being the others) that are all tournament quality (probably only 2 will get in), Kent has still stood above the crowd. Their 21-5 record and RPI rating of 26 will assure them a decent seed as long as they win the MAC tournament, which is not a given.

The other conference is the WCC (West Coast Conference), which has two teams, Pepperdine and Gonzaga, who I think will both make the second round of the tournament. Both are playing extremely good ball, and neither is getting any notice from the media.

With almost identical records (21-6 and 20-7), the WCC championship is still up for grabs. Pepperdine has the lead right now with one less conference loss, but the WCC tournament should be academic anyhow, as it will be absolutely criminal if only one of those teams gets in the field of 64 this year...

Here are my early line predictions for #1 seeds: Stanford, Cincy, Duke, and Arizona. A second Pac-10 team, you ask? I know that slights the Big 10, but Arizona (23-4) is leading the conference and has handed Stanford its only loss, at Stanford.

Professional Lull - Does the NBA get real boring for a while during this stretch of the season, as they prod through games against the backdrop of the NCAA tournament? I think so. It was actually refreshing last year when they played the shortened schedule.

Aside from that gripe, I think the league looks interesting this year. I like what I see out in LA, but I still don't think the Lakers can win the title until Shaq learns how to shoot free throws at a better rate, especially since the next best team in the league, Portland, is in their division.

The Knicks continue to intrigue me, and they are playing much better ball as of late. Marcus Camby's injury will slow them down, but he'll be back in time to help them get far into the playoffs. I think the 76ers got the best of the three-way deal last week, in which they acquired Toni Kukoc from the Bulls. They really needed a scorer that could take the pressure off of Iverson. Perhaps that will help his shooting percentage, but probably not...

Snooze Control -Every year, I vow that I will make an effort to try understand the popularity of NASCAR racing, and yet every year I still don't get it. I know that it's the #1 spectator sport in the country, but I still don't believe it. I don't know a single person who watches it.

All I do know is that *Sportscenter* spent about 15 minutes on the Daytona 500 on Monday, and people at the Pub for lunch were ready to toss the TV out the window. I actually sat down and watched the Daytona 500 for about 15 minutes last weekend (Dale Jarett won, for your information), and it was boring. Really boring. Then again, I guess I'm not interested in seeing a crash, which consistently finishes in the top 3 of reasons why people watch NASCAR.

10 Years Later - Loyola Marymount retired the jerseys of Bo Kimble and the late Hank Gathers this week in an emotional ceremony, marking the 10th anniversary of Gathers' death on the court. Anyone who remembers that game, or the emotional run Loyola made in the tournament that year, should be happy that the school and the Gathers family have finally come to peace with Hank's death, and with each other.

Final Words - Marty McSorely said it was, quote, "A real dumb play. I don't know what I was thinking," after his vicious, unprovoked slash to the back of the head of Donald Brashear with 2.7 seconds left in the Boston/Vancouver game this week. It was worse than that. Even the NHL can't sit on this one... Looks like another typical Syracuse basketball season, as they begin to fade into the night as the post season draws near... I'll laugh pretty hard if Mike Hampton ditches the Mets after just one season. He's already stalling in contract negotiations.

Women Swimmers State Champs

Women's swimming continued from page 20

special. Fortunately, with the return of Kashner, Kunz, Donovan, Hegarty and others, next year's team, which will make the switch from New York State League to the powerful NESCAC, could be equally good if not better.

"We're ready to go," said Thompson about next year. "We definitely look like a top three (NESCAC) team right now. We're excited to make the change."

For now they can do without change. Even as some of the team prepares for the NCAA's in two weeks you can't blame them if they take a moment to bask in their current glory. After all, who wouldn't want to be known as New York State Champions.

Tune into WHCL 88.7FM Broadcast of Hamilton Men's Hockey vs. Bowdoin

Saturday, 4pm

Sports

Women's Hoops Upsets R.P.I. in UCAA Tourney

By Lauren Reynolds '02
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's hoops team pulled out two hard fought victories over the weekend, including a win in the first round of the UCAA tournament.

After a seven-hour bus ride, the Lady Continentals faced NESCAC rival Connecticut College. Coach Diehl commented, "I wasn't sure how we were going to play coming off of that bus. However, the girls came out and played hard."

The underdog once again, Hamilton came out strong led by sophomore Amanda Siepiola's 18 points, four rebounds and five assists. Co-captain Abby McDermott '00 had a tremendous game in the post, scoring a season high 15 points and pulling down eleven rebounds for a double-double. Jenny Russell '02, the team's most consistent scorer, added 15 points. Forward Liz Buckley '02 also scored in the double digits, adding 10 points for the 78-72 win.

Diehl attributed the win to great shooting and the immense contributions from everyone on the floor. Although Connecticut College was able to bring the Continental's 20 point lead down to six, Diehl praised the team's ability to "play under control and take care of the ball in the second half."

The Lady Continentals did not have as much luck against Wesleyan on Saturday. The deep Hamilton team was able to stay with a very athletic Wesleyan team the entire game, losing by nine, 79-70. The Lady Continentals saw much more action from their posts, with small forward Karen Pogonowski '02 leading the way with 20 points, including five three-pointers. Co-captain Sabrina Valenta '00 added 17 points, shooting 9-9 from the foul line. Russell added another 14 points, and McDermott rounded out the leaders for Hamilton with nine points. However, their efforts were not enough, and Hamilton succumbed to Wesleyan. Diehl praised the impact of the forwards, calling their offensive presence "uncharacteristic, but necessary" if the team is going to make a run for the UCAA tournament title.

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Women's hoops coach "Diehls" with players.

The highlight of the week for the women's hoops team came on Tuesday night, when they faced third ranked R.P.I. in the first round of the UCAA tournament. Hamilton came into the game having lost both previous matchups and was not expected to stay in the game. However, the Continentals came out fired up after two huge wins against strong NESCAC teams Trinity and Conn College. Down nine points at halftime, Diehl focused on defense. "We were able to keep all of their scorers under double digits, and were able to come out strong offensively in the second half."

Siepiola continued her tremendous play at point guard, leading the Continentals with 13 points. McDermott played fiercely on both sides of the court, scoring 10 points and pulling down 12 rebounds. Hamilton pulled out the win, 58-53.

Diehl described McDermott's play as "stellar; she really came alive in the second half and was an integral part of the win." Lindsey Schantz '03 came off the bench and contributed ten points, including a crucial jumper late in the second half. The Lady Continentals shot over 40% from the floor and received contributions from everyone on the team. Diehl beamed, "The team really pulled together and kept their composure throughout the game."

The Lady Continentals will face a tough St.Lawrence squad on Friday, when they enter the semi-finals of the UCAA tournament. Though Hamilton lost the first two times they met, Diehl believes Friday's contest will have different results. "The girls have much more confidence in their game; the wins in the NESCAC against Trinity and Conn College and the close game against Amherst has made them realize that they can play with anyone in the UCAA."

Diehl adds that they will be focusing on keeping things simple and relaxed in the two practices before Friday. The winner of Friday's match-up will play in the championships on Saturday at William Smith.

Tribute to Men's Basketball Team

Dear team,

Your fans would like to thank you for a great year. You shocked us by winning your first eight games, you became the first undefeated regular season champions of the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Conference, and you energized the campus with your inspiring play. But we want more.

Tonight you play Union in the semi-finals of the conference tournament, a team you have defeated, like everyone else in the league, twice this season. We do not have to remind you how difficult it is to beat the same team three times in one year. To win this tournament you will have to do that twice. But you should and we expect you to.

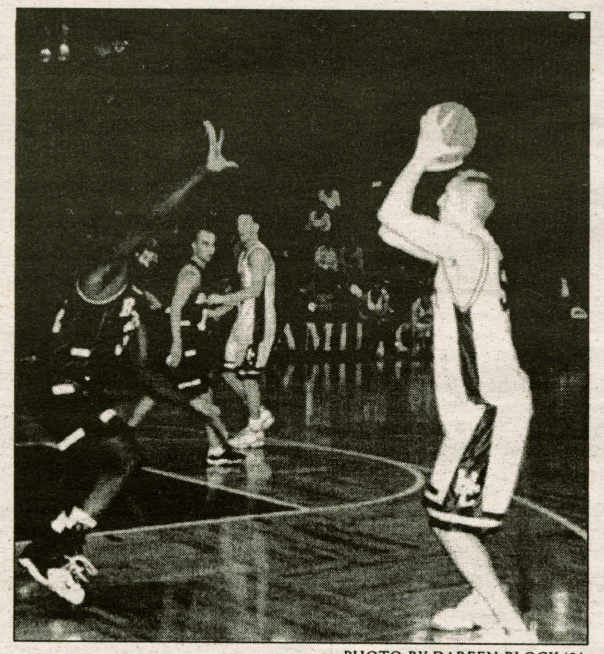


PHOTO BY DAREEN BLOCK '01

Justin Stolarczyk '02 shoots over a helpless defender.

Last weekend's losses to Connecticut College and Wesleyan University were heartbreakers. No one, who was not in your locker room, could possibly understand the anguish the team felt after those defeats. However, none of you had to walk out of the field house with a few hundred people who would have done anything to help their team. We were upset and we are hungry for redemption.

You have lost four of your last five games and are 4-5 in the month of February. But all along the goal was not to win every game, the goal was to get better. Oliver Cromwell said, "He who stops being better stops being good." Do the Hamilton Continentals want to get better? Of course, but over the last few weeks wins and losses may have had more of an effect on you. Stop and think. Have you not improved? There is no doubt that you are a better team now than you were at 8-0. We know that you have a lot left in you. Don't let your season be a nice surprise, make it a Cinderella story.

In November you had high team goals and we had low expectations. Now, we have high expectations and it is time to achieve your goals. We want another banner and we want to storm the court. Good luck this weekend and get what you deserve.

-- Your Fans

Women's Swimming Blows Out Competition at States

By Chris Preston '03
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Coach Dave Thompson didn't hesitate to answer when asked how this year's women's swimming team ranks among the best he's coached here at Hamilton; "Best team I've ever had. It was the most supportive, spirited group."

Even before this past weekend's New York State Championships at RPI (UNYSCSC), the team had posted an impressive 7-1 dual meet record, including wins over several NESCAC teams. But this past weekend left no doubt in anybody's minds about how good this team really is.

The Continentals dominated their opponents this past weekend, winning with a score of 1477.5—over 400 points better than second place finisher, Ithaca. The team won 9 of the 10 relays and 13 of the 20 events. "It was as good a meet as we could have hoped for," Coach Thompson claimed.

To put this remarkable victory in perspective, last year the Continentals finished 32 points behind Ithaca. Jennifer Kunz '01 was named Swimmer of the Meet, while freshman sensation Cady Kashner was named Diver of the Meet. Kunz posted wins in both the 100 meter freestyle (with a time of 53.27 seconds) and 400 freestyle relay. Kashner, meanwhile, continued her dominance in both the 1 and 3 meter dives.

These two were not the only members of the team to make significant contributions, however. Katherine Donovan '02 won the 200 meter breast stroke with a time of 2:26.04. She was also a member of the 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams that emerged victorious at RPI, with Kunz, Meghan Steed '00, and Brooke Hegarty '02.

Both relay teams qualified for the NCAA championships at Emory March 10-12. Coach Thompson was especially impressed with the 200 freestyle relay, saying, "This is the highest seeded relay we've ever had. We may be the third best [200 relay team] in the cou[illegible]y." Relay member Steed agreed: "We have a chance to win [at NCAA's.] Anything can happen; we're very excited."

Several others besides the 200 and 400 freestlye relay teams qualified for NCAA's. Kashner qualified in the 3m dive with a score of 445.65, Kunz qualified in the 100 meter freestlye race, and Donovan qualified in the 200m breast stroke.

Having breezed through the regular season dual meets (save one), demolishing the competition in the UNYSCSC last weekend, and being well-represented in the NCAA's, Thompson has witnessed his team accomplish nearly every goal it set out to accomplish at the beginning of the season.

"Most of our goals were met," Thompson conceded, "but there are still a few goals left to be achieved." By this he means for everyone who qualified for NCAA's to place as high as possible. Judging from what this team has already accomplished, that may be a modest goal.

Regardless of what happens at NCAA's, this women's swimming team is

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